

هك من النور

35p

No. 66,160

FRIDAY, MARCH 27 1998

http://www.the-times.co.uk



Healing power of swimming with dolphins

## IN THE SATURDAY TIMES

Best for  
Interiors  
Guide to the next hot-spots



Best for  
Interiors  
Designer rooms for the nineties



Plus  
Jackie on hats, bags and alligator shoes



## Compulsory second pensions likely

# Shake-up in welfare hits the workshy

By JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

AN ASSAULT against the workshy and benefit fraudsters, and the first steps towards compulsory second pensions were heralded by the Government yesterday in its long-awaited blueprint for welfare reform.

Tony Blair placed new duties on the Government and every British citizen in an ambitious attempt to change the culture of the welfare state from dependency and the passive payment of benefits to one where people are required to take work or training where they can.

His new welfare contract put the duty on individuals to support their children and other family members, to save wherever possible for old age, to take up the opportunity to be independent if they were able to do so, and not to defraud the taxpayer.

In return the Government will have the duty to provide people with the assistance they need to find work, to help parents to meet the costs of raising their children, to relieve poverty in old age where savings are inadequate and to support those unable to work.

The 96-page Green Paper *New Ambitions for our Country: A New Contract for Welfare* amounts, according to Mr Blair, to an attempt to redesign the welfare state around work and security — work for those who can and security for those who cannot.

Its concrete measures, announced in the *Commons* by Frank Field, the Welfare Reform Minister, include a substantial shake-up of disability benefits to ensure that those with minor ailments take up



"It offers protection for even the poorest in society"

jobs where they can. This will include a strict test designed to produce big savings in the £8 billion bill for incapacity benefit, which goes to the sick and infirm, and changes to the disability living allowance and attendance allowance to reduce the number of benefit awards made to people for the rest of their life.

There will be a crackdown on millions who use false national insurance numbers to claim benefit. And as part of the attempt to cut the estimated £4 billion lost through fraud each year, welfare cheats will face on-the-spot fines at benefit offices.

With work at the heart of the plans, the Green Paper proposes a big increase in private savings, insurance and pensions schemes, even for the less affluent, to avoid the need for people to have to rely only on the basic state pension.

The Government gave a commitment to keeping the basic pension but raising it only in line with prices but

they made clear that this would not be enough to protect pensioners in the long term.

Mr Field and government spokesmen gave the clearest hint that they may move to compelling people to save more in a second pension by saying throughout the day that they were being "seriously" considered.

Mr Field said that with an ageing population more would need to be saved for pensions, but the share borne by taxpayers could not go up.

Mr Field announced pension legislation during this Parliament. There will also be Bills shortly on the changes to disability benefit and the fraud assault, and another on the long-planned overhaul of the Child Support Agency to bring in more maintenance payments from absent fathers and to reduce its administrative costs.

But Mr Field also eased the fears of Labour MPs that the shake-up could hit some of their cherished ideals. He made plain that the key benefits for the disabled would not be means-tested but remain universal, and he added that the changes to incapacity benefit would not affect existing claimants.

The reaction was mixed. Iain Duncan Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, described the Green Paper as "vacuous" and "a series of missed opportunities".

Matthew Parris and Pensions protest, page 2  
Reform details, page 10, 11  
Leading article, page 25  
Tim Congdon and John Lloyd, page 24  
Leading article, page 25  
Pensions plea, page 29  
Anastole Kaltschky, page 33



The younger of the two accused boys, Andrew Golden, demonstrating his gun skills in a video taken by his family

## Gun boys 'should be jailed for life'

FROM TOM RHODES IN JONESBORO

THE husband of an Arkansas teacher who died saving one of her students from a hail of bullets yesterday demanded that two boys charged in the killing should spend the rest of their lives in prison.

Andrew Golden, 11, and Mitchell Johnson, 13, have both been charged as juve-

niles after the shootings on Tuesday in Jonesboro that killed four girls and Shannon Wright, 32, an English teacher at Westside Middle School. Under Arkansas law, both are likely to be released by the time they are 18 but Mitchell Wright, a businessman, said the two had acted with adult intentions.

"I think they should spend the rest of their lives in prison but we all know that's not going to happen," said Mr Wright, who has been left to raise the couple's two-year-old son. He added: "When you lose your wife, I don't think it matters that it was a child who did it or a grown-up. It's not going to matter to my little boy who killed her."

In a seiless act of heroism, Mrs Wright threw herself in front of Emma Pittman, 11, as

the gunfire started. The girl's mother has called for a special heroism award.

As Janet Reno, the US Attorney General, ordered an investigation into gun attacks in schools, state prosecutors were investigating the possibility that both boys could be charged under federal firearms laws.

Gang fixation, page 16

## 30 police will keep watch on freed paedophile

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD has drawn up plans to put convicted child killer and paedophile Sidney Cooke under 24-hour surveillance when he is released from prison next month.

A team of up to 30 undercover officers will be needed to watch the movements of Cooke who was convicted of the murder of 14 year old Jason Swift, a teenage runaway, after investigations by police into a ring of violent paedophiles.

Yesterday the Yard said that no decisions have been taken on how to handle Cooke's release but senior officers have consulted the detectives who arrested him and have been told that he remains a serious threat.

Cooke is due to be released from Wandsworth Prison on April 6. He has served nine years of his sentence but he will not be subject to any controls because his conviction predates new legislation allowing supervision. He will have only to register his new address within 14 days.

Surveillance would mean that a team of officers would work in shifts watching Cooke wherever he went from the moment he is released. If he does not settle in London again other forces could take over. A group of vigilantes called SPEAK — Stop Paedophiles Exploiting and Abusing Kids — has already promised that they will watch Cooke when he is freed.

There are 150 offenders currently in prison who will escape any control when they come out of jail.

Last year surveillance teams from Sussex police and other forces watched Robert Oliver, another member of the gang, when he was released. Within hours of arriving in Brighton Oliver contacted local paedophile and was seen in a children's library and on the seafrost.

TV & RADIO ..... 54, 55  
WEATHER ..... 28  
CROSSWORDS ..... 28, 56  
LETTERS ..... 25  
OBITUARIES ..... 27  
MATTHEW PARRIS ..... 24  
ARTS ..... 40-43  
CHESS & BRIDGE ..... 50  
COURT & SOCIAL ..... 26  
SPORT ..... 50-54, 56  
STYLE ..... 54, 56  
EDUCATION ..... 49

Buying The Times overseas  
Africa \$1.50; Belgium B Frs 100;  
Canada Cdn \$1.50; Canada Frs 325;  
Czechia C11.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00;  
Finland Fmk 30.50; France F 16.00;  
Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar GIB 90;  
Greece Dr 650; Netherlands Fl 5.50;  
Italy L 4.500; Luxembourg Lfr 100;  
Malaysia M\$ 3.50; Mexico Mx 450;  
Morocco Dir 30.00; Norway Kr 25.00;  
Portugal Esc 350; Spain Ptas 200;  
Sweden Skr 25.00; Switzerland S Frs 5.50;  
Tunisia Dtn 3.200; USA \$3.50.



## Call halted Murdoch deal

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

RUPERT MURDOCH, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, used information obtained directly from Tony Blair to inform his business decisions during his attempt to buy a controlling interest in Silvio Berlusconi's television interests in Italy.

Despite a number of ambiguous statements from Downing Street spokesman over the past few days it is now clear that last week Mr Murdoch rang the Prime Minister to see if he would find out what the political reaction might be.

The chairman of News Corp, the parent company of The Times, was planning to use British Sky Broadcasting, the satellite television venture, as the vehicle to take a 50.6 per cent stake in Mediaset, the company that groups Mr Berlusconi's three networks.

Within two days Mr Blair rang Mr Murdoch to say that Romano Prodi, the Italian Prime Minister had made it clear that he would prefer an

Italian purchaser. The Italian Prime Minister indicated that if no suitable Italian purchaser was available a European company such as BSkyB would be acceptable. News Corp owns 40 per cent of BSkyB through its UK subsidiary News International and the satellite venture is accepted as a EU company by the British authorities.

Mr Blair's report of Signor Prodi's lukewarm response on the BSkyB issue was one of the key factors in persuading Mr Murdoch not to make a higher bid for Mediaset. The News Corp-BSkyB offer was 8,000 lire a share. Mr Berlusconi wanted 10,000 lire. It is now clear that although price was obviously a factor in the deal it was the perceived threat of a possible political row that decided Mr Murdoch against making a higher offer.

Mr Murdoch declined to comment on the talks yesterday other than to say that it did not involve lobbying of any kind. He said: "This was a perfectly innocent request for information which I would expect from any British business needing help from their Government in European-wide investments."

It is still not clear whether Mr Blair called Signor Prodi or whether it was the other way round but it is now clear that the issue of Mediaset did come up in the conversation, as officials in the British Embassy admitted earlier this week.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman tried to make light of the affair on Tuesday and described reports that Mr Blair had intervened on behalf of Mr Murdoch as "a complete joke." The spokesman would neither confirm nor deny that the deal had been mentioned in a conversation between the two Prime Ministers but added "this was not a conversation about Rupert Murdoch."

The vehemence of the den-

Continued on page 2, col 4

## Prison chief in race row

The Director General of the Prison Service was involved in a race row last night after claiming that physical differences meant that Afro-Caribbeans were more likely to suffocate while being restrained by staff.

Richard Tilt was condemned by reform groups after a jury found that a prisoner had been unlawfully killed.

## Officer accused over Lawrence

A police officer failed to pass on a description of Stephen Lawrence's killer to colleagues working on the case in the vital minutes after the murder, it was alleged yesterday.

## Actor dies

The actor Daniel Massey has died of heart failure in London. The star, whose films included *The Entertainer*, *Moll Flanders* and *The Cat and the Canary*, was 64.

## British Jews snub Cook

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S Jewish community has "postponed" a dinner at which Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary was to be the guest of honour in the wake of his disastrous visit to Israel.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews withdrew its invitation amid concerns that the event could turn into a confrontation.

The board and the Foreign Office both denied last night that the postponement was a snub and said the dinner date had been changed because it clashed with the G8 summit in May. However no new date has been set.

The board had invited Mr Cook to address its annual president's dinner. But, according to today's *Jewish Chronicle*, the president of the board, Elfred Tabachnik, put off the invitation amid concern that the fund-raising dinner could be boycotted if Mr Cook were to give an address.

Mr Tabachnik is quoted:

"Considering the strength of feeling in the community, we did not think we should have him at our dinner. Hopefully, we will be able to ask him when things have cooled."

At the board's dinner last year King Hussein of Jordan and John Major shared the platform.

The postponement comes a week after the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cancelled a dinner for Mr Cook in protest over his meeting with Palestinian officials.

On being greeted with the words: "Welcome to Jerusalem, the capital of Israel," Mr Cook is reported to have said: "Well, it is also the capital of the Palestinians."

Jon Sacker, spokesman for the Board of Deputies, said last night: "Along with a number of diplomats, we had invited Robin Cook to a dinner we were hoping to put on in May. Because of its proximity to the G8 summit we have had

to postpone the dinner. With feelings as they currently stand in the Jewish community, a later date would be more effective."

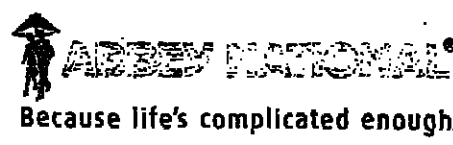
Mr Sacker added: "It would be fair to say that there is a degree of upset about how Robin Cook went to the Middle East. To help move the Middle East process forward, anyone wanting to be involved has not only to be neutral but must be seen to be neutral."

A delegation from the board will meet Mr Cook at the Foreign Office next week, when the Israel visit is certain to be on the agenda.

Mr Cook will be invited to the dinner when it is rescheduled, possibly in October or November, but no indication has yet been given on whether he will be asked to speak.

The Foreign Office said the dinner with Mr Cook had been postponed for "organisational reasons". He added: "The suggestion that this might be a snub is untrue."

This Sunday, organise a mortgage quicker than you can read the papers. 0800 100 800



YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. To avoid us in improving our service, we may record or monitor telephone calls. Secured loans and mortgages require a charge on the property and in the case of endowment mortgages an endowment life policy for the amount of the advance and a charge over the policy. Loans are subject to status and residence and are not available to persons under the age of 18. Written conditions are available on request. Abbey National plc, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority, only sells its own Life Assurance, Pension and Gift Trust products. Abbey National, the umbrella logo symbol, and because life's complicated enough are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6AA, United Kingdom.



# Mandelson's faithful lapdog retrieves the situation

The most interesting thing about the statement Frank Field made on his Welfare Green Paper was the progress of the head of David Blunkett's guide-dog Lucy up Peter Mandelson's lap while he made it.

Lucy is a black, curly-coated retriever of placid but whimsical disposition. One of her whimsies came over her as Mr Field rose nervily to say the unsayable. We fast realised that the unsayable was unsayable only because it contained so many abstract nouns that the absence of

linking action-words turned the statement into something which would only work in Gregorian plainsong.

Mr Field's upturned eyes and meek tenor would have suited plainsong, were incense permitted in the chamber.

Eyes wandered to Lucy. She was licking Mr Mandelson's hand.

To be loved let alone licked by any warm-blooded creature is an unusual experience for the Minister Without Portfolio, who looked edgy. But to be seen on television repelling

innocent affection from an animal could lose an election. With clenched jaw he put up with it.

Mr Field moved from "rooting out fraud and abuse" to "the creation of a decent society". Peter was frankly bored. Peter was frankly nervous. Lucy moved her head from his hand to his insideneck. Frank moved to "encourage greater self-provision".

Lucy explored a little further up Peter's elegantly-flannelled leg. Frank explored "a single work-focused gate-



MATTHEW PARRIS  
POLITICAL SKETCH

way into the benefits system". Peter looked seriously worried.

"Now I wish to turn to pensions," declared Frank, tremulously. Lucy turned to Peter's inner thigh, resting her dark, silky curls lightly there. Peter seemed to relax in the face of the inevitable. "... the support they need to lead a fulfilling life with dignity,"

trilled Frank.

Lucy finds her life entirely fulfilling and cares nothing for dignity. Her wet nose explored a little further. "We will legislate for new gateways," promised Frank. The warm muzzle, cosily cradled, had found gateway enough.

Frank started to talk excitedly, about "action zones." Mercifully, Lucy did not re-

spond, her intentions being pacific. This was fortunate for Peter.

Mr Mandelson was responsible for having the testicles of a dog called Fitz removed from pictures advertising Labour before the last election. Lucy was perfectly situated for canine revenge.

But Peter trusted her. What passes for a smile flickered across those guarded lips. Frank spoke of "opportunities to develop our talents within a framework of guidance". He asked everyone to help him "create a better world".

And sat down.

But for Lucy the small world within the framework provided by Peter's right and left legs was all she wanted. Gingerly, Peter stroked her ear. Frank was now calling for a "Third Way".

His speech had moved from chair to rap. There was once a Jamaican preacher who so incessantly promised "positive action", that a Kingston reggae-rap singer hit the chords with his chorus: "positive action, positive action".

Mr Field's orgy of abstract nouns could have formed the

basis of a similar rap. Yesterday we had New Ambassadors, Child Poverty Ambassador, social divi-shahin and exclu-shahin, self-provision-shahin, a second pen-shahin, Disability Rights Commis-shahin, better detes-shahin, and early prevent-shahin. "Our aim," he declared, "is a revolu-shahin".

But the revolution seemed to pass Peter Mandelson by. With Lucy's head muzzing contentedly in his expensively-suited lap, the Minister Without Portfolio looked profoundly content.

# Rail companies ordered to cut overcrowding

COMPANIES running Britain's most overcrowded trains were ordered yesterday to improve conditions for passengers as fresh evidence emerged of serious strains on the busiest sections of the rail network.

Five companies were told to introduce changes to reduce the huge number of standing passengers on peak-time trains, many of which are carrying record numbers of London commuters.

They have been told by John O'Brien, the rail franchising director, to set out plans such as adding more trains, increasing their length or offering cheaper fares to encourage commuters to avoid the most congested period. Failure to act will prompt a series of fines imposed on operators running overcrowded services.

The worst offender was named as Connex South Central, whose peak-time trains, running mainly from South London and Surrey, regularly carry one in 20 passengers above capacity. Thameslink, running from Bedford to Brighton, was close behind in exceeding capacity.

Other companies breaching the limit were South West Trains, mainly from Hampshire, Great Eastern, serving Essex and Suffolk, and Connex South Eastern, run-

London worst hit as its number of peak morning commuters grows by 10%, reports Arthur Leathley

ing trains to Kent. Five other firms running services into London have remained within their limits but have reported large increases in overcrowding during the past year.

The five companies ordered to make changes have consistently exceeded limits which allow for up to 35 per cent of passengers to stand, averaged across all morning and evening peak-time services.

Unpredicted growth in the number of passengers has left several companies unable to cope with demand, which has outstripped most forecasts made at the time of privatisation. Last year, the ten companies serving London were fined a total of £750,000 for failing to offer enough capacity.

Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, said that although the increased passenger numbers were en-

couraging, "it is not good enough that five out of ten train companies are operating in most cases in excess of peak-hour overcrowding limits". He called for Mr O'Brien to take urgent action.

The scope for increasing numbers of trains is limited. This week, Railtrack, the track and signal company, issued warnings of worsening congestion over the busiest stretches of the network and said that most of the necessary improvements would not be complete until at least 2002.

The number of commuters using morning services into London rose by 10 per cent in 1997 and the number leaving the capital during the evening peak has grown by 7.6 per cent. Although services throughout the country have seen greater overcrowding, most are not subject to the complex regulatory formula that operates on London commuter lines.

The rises have increased still further during the early months of this year, prompting rail experts to believe that numbers have exceeded the previous record for peak-time journeys to and from London, set in 1989. Then 437,000 passengers used morning peak-hour London services each, against 426,000 last year.



Pensioners did not let the rain dampen their enthusiasm yesterday when they descended on Westminster to call for a better deal (Polly Newton writes). Mounted police were brought in as more than 1,000 campaigners gathered outside the Houses of Parliament waiting for a chance to lobby their MPs. Many had attended a rally in the morning organised by the British Pensioners and

Trades Union Action Association. Edna Flanther, 75, from Exmouth, said: "We are just showing our strength. If you don't fight for things you don't get anywhere. You can't live on promises." Vivian Sadler, from Leiston in Suffolk, said: "What annoyed the pensioners so much is the Budget. We were put on one side like a lot of garbage. We weren't mentioned. That has angered a lot of people

who wouldn't normally come to a rally like this." Roy Smith, from Stoke-on-Trent, said pensioners had been short-changed for years. "The basic pension has fallen from 21 per cent to 14 per cent of the average wage. It will be eroded even further if the situation is allowed to continue." Mr Smith said that there would have been more at the Commons but many could not afford to travel to London.

Continued from page 1

ials could have left the mistaken impression that the newspaper reports initially published in Italy, were untrue.

Questioned during his visit to Paris about the reports Mr Blair replied: "There is no question of offering any assistance to anybody. I treat Mr Murdoch no differently from anyone else in respect of

# Murdoch deal

any business with British interests."

The issue is a sensitive one because Mr Blair has been accused by Labour MPs on the Left of being too close to Mr Murdoch and his business interests. Two of Mr Mur-

doch's four national newspapers, *The Sun* and *The News of the World*, became enthusiastic supporters of New Labour during the election.

In an interview to be broadcast on *Media Monthly* on Sky News on Sunday Mark

Booth, chief executive of BSkyB said that the Mediaset deal would have been a wonderful acquisition. Any deal would have been subject to the support of the BSkyB board although News Corp insists that BSkyB directors were fully informed about the progress of the talks.

Media Times, pages 44-47

# Abbey fined £5,000 for fall

BY RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A LABOURER working at Westminster Abbey suffered serious multiple injuries when he fell through a hole in the roof, a court heard yesterday.

Westminster Abbey was fined £5,000, with £1,000 costs, for breach of safety regulations after Roy Caward fell 20ft and suffered a fractured ankle, a broken sternum, two broken bones in his back and a cracked pelvis.

Mr Caward, who landed on pipework at the triforium in the north transept of the abbey, is now expected to sue the abbey for compensation in the civil courts. Mr Caward was involved in the replacement and moving of timbers in July last year to increase the pitch of the roof so that drainage was improved, the court heard.

A hole was made in the roof as part of this process. Mr Caward was told to cut a piece of timber and, ignoring repeated instructions to go downstairs and do it, knelt down beside the hole. He toppled forward as he used the saw and fell between the roof joists onto the pipework below. But because he was not wearing a safety harness, the abbey admitted liability.

Eleri Rees, stipendiary magistrate at Horseferry Road, said: "I am sure that everybody here is relieved that what could have been a fatal accident - though it did result in serious injuries - did not have those disastrous consequences."

"However, it was a serious and potentially fatal accident. [The Abbey] is clearly a responsible body which takes health and safety matters seriously, and there has been no previous cause for concern about the way they approach dangerous works of this kind."

# Get out of your chairs and stop whingeing

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

VICTOR Meldrew, alias the actor Richard Wilson of the BBC's *One Foot in the Grave* fame, is to be the public face of a new Government campaign to give "the wrinklies" a greater say in their public services.

He will back a move to persuade the "oldest" to stop the armchair whingeing and to speak out about their needs and how they can play a greater part in the community.

He is to attend a special conference in June when Ministers will officially recognise "grey power" in the nation.

Last night Peter Kilfoyle, Junior Public Services Minister, announced the new approach to help the elderly get more out of society and told MPs that he had given the go-ahead for 28 pilot projects around the country.

The Government is anxious to redress the imbalance in provision of services for pensioners and the over-50s. They have been prompted to take action by official forecasts which predict that a quarter of the population will be of pensionable age by the year 2031.

One of the ideas favoured by Ministers is for older people to take part in bartering schemes - offering help with painting, for example, in return for gardening. A trial has already started in Watford dubbed the American time dollar scheme.

Mr Kilfoyle told the Commons last night: "The saying 'older and wiser' holds true. Older people have a wealth of

experience and want to contribute actively to their local communities."

By helping to put in place more help and opportunities for the elderly, today the Government believe older people in their 80s and 90s will be more encouraged to stay in their own homes, instead of moving into residential care.

One senior Government source said yesterday: "We want to help older people prolong their so-called Third Age after they first retire and enjoy good health."

To assess the longer-term needs of an elderly population and how public services can help them, a two-year project has been agreed. It has been drawn up as part of the Cabinet Office revamp of the citizens' charter programme and the proposed White Paper this summer on Better Government.

The over-50s in each locality

will be asked how they would like to see local services improved for them. The Cabinet Office has already conducted its own polling and have found that most believe the Government does not listen to them.

They also believe they are under-valued and could make more of an impact locally but they are not recognised.

Many would like to offer practical help particularly in schools and with young people. In Hainrow, north London, for example, the older generation are being matched with local schools to help children with their reading and spelling.

Many towns are already installing computer terminals in bus-stations or libraries to help older people get in touch with organisations where they can be of help.

Fear of crime is a general complaint and in another project in Wolverhampton the local authority is helping older people reclaim the streets by encouraging them into the town centre during the evening.

A total of 28 pilot schemes are to be set up by local authorities in partnership with other agencies such as health trusts, police and voluntary groups.

A new booklet *Passport 50 plus: Your practical guide to the law* is also to be published this summer setting out older people's rights on healthcare, pensions, benefits, safety, crime, travel and leisure.



Richard Wilson, old frontman

# Why pay ridiculous rates for your hotel calls?



Calling from hotels can be expensive. But you could cut the cost with a BT Chargecard. Use it when calling from an hotel and you'll pay the BT Chargecard rate for your voice, fax or data calls not the hotel rate.

And calls using a BT Chargecard qualify for BT Business Choices discounts too.

BT Chargecards are issued free. Accepted by millions of phones\* in the UK and around the world, they are quick and easy to use. So if you would like to save more with a BT Chargecard, call us today or return the coupon.

\* Excludes calls made from mobile

For a BT Chargecard application form please send to: BT Chargecards, FREEPOST (SWB 195) Bristol BS1 4BR.

MR/MRS/MISS/MS NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_

Why not change the way we work? BT

FREE BT Business Chargecards. Freefone 0800 800 930 and quote HT109

# Prisoners' pioneer wins justice award

BY FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE barrister who acted for Moors murderer Myra Hindley and for the two boys who murdered the toddler James Bulger was announced winner of the Times/Justice award for criminal justice last night.

Edward Fitzgerald, QC, of Doughty Street chambers, who has made his name as a fighter for human rights and for his readiness to espouse unpopular causes, was awarded the prize for his "outstanding contribution to criminal justice". His

career, as one of his nominees put it, has been "dedicated to the promotion of the rights of those least able to assert themselves in society and at law."

"It began with pioneering work on behalf of the mentally ill, within the criminal justice system and soon extended to the rights of prisoners, from representation in disciplinary hearings to disclosure of Home Office files."

Because he takes cases that bring him into conflict with the executive, Michael Howard, former Home Secretary, was once prompted to say: "Hello Edward, you're a complete thorn in my

side." Lord Justice Schiemann, one of Fitzgerald's nominees, said that he had helped "change the whole climate in the way in which the law is applied" to prisoners.

The other award, for an outstanding contribution to civil justice, was jointly won by Francesca King, a human rights academic, and the Kent Law Clinic, which is part of Kent University.

The awards were presented by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, at a reception at 11 Downing Street last night. They mark the 40th anniversary of Justice, the human rights group.

NG has the wet set, an air Pl...lea all ad da Jo or de th w w or ec



# Dolphins help brain-damaged boy speak



Nikki Brice at home with his mother, Tabitha. Child breaks eight years of silence after swimming with Flipper in Miami, says Simon de Bruxelles



Nikki swimming with a dolphin at the Seaquarium in Miami. He had not said a word from birth but pointed to the water and said "in" on his third day at the centre

A BOY aged eight who suffered brain damage at birth has spoken his first words after making friends with a dolphin.

Well-wishers raised more than £10,000 to send Nikki Brice to Miami for treatment at a therapy centre where handicapped youngsters are encouraged to swim with dolphins.

After eight years of silence, Nikki's mother Tabitha was astonished to hear him say "in" as she helped him out of the pool where he had been swimming with four dolphins, including the world-famous Flipper. Since that first breakthrough eight days ago, he has learnt to say "please" and "duck".

Family, friends and celebrities including the Spice Girls, Ben Elton and Deborah Kerr helped to raise the money for him to spend nearly three weeks at the Human Dolphin Therapy Centre at Miami's Seaquarium. The centre uses 40-minute swimming sessions with trained dolphins alongside intensive conventional therapies.

Although Nikki had been nervous, his mother said he soon enjoyed playing with the dolphins. Mrs Brice, 30, said: "On the third day he was swimming in the dolphin

enclosure. We hadn't been there for long when Nikki was told to get out of the water at the end of the session, and he stood very quietly at the edge of the tank.

"Nikki must have thought he wasn't going to be allowed to go swimming with the dolphins again because he suddenly pointed at the water and said 'in'. He was telling us he wanted to get back in to the water. We just stood there in shock because it was so unexpected. Once we got over it we quickly told him he could go in again and he soon cheered up. I have hoped for years to hear Nikki speak."

Nikki, who attends a special school near his home in Weston-super-Mare, technically "died" at birth. He was blue and his heart had stopped beating and although doctors were able to revive him, he had suffered minor brain damage.

Neurological experts say there is no physical reason why Nikki cannot talk because his hearing is normal and his vocal chords are fully functional. He was able to communicate by grunting for "yes" and "no" and using facial expressions but, despite intensive therapy, had never uttered a word.

At one point Nikki started

to learn sign language but Mrs Brice decided to stop his lessons for fear he would lose the will to talk. She said yesterday: "We have already begun to see a change. His behaviour has got better and he no longer seems so frustrated. "Watching other children improve in leaps and bounds, day by day is an inspiration to him. It is like seeing a miracle happening before your eyes. There is just something magical that happens between children and dolphins, something that I don't think we will ever fully understand."

Nikki's treatment is being supervised by David Nathanson, who pioneered dolphin therapy 20 years ago. Dr Nathanson said: "I am very pleased with Nikki. He is

doing very well and we are delighted that he has spoken for the first time. I am looking to build on this to encourage him to extend his vocabulary. "He is a lovely child and very enthusiastic. Obviously it is early days and a great deal needs to be done yet but Nikki has finally broken out of his world of silence."

The centre claims to have helped more than 1,000 children to overcome problems from cerebral palsy to learning difficulties. It opened four years ago and treats eight children a week with an intensive regime that lasts on average two weeks. The centre claims a 97 per cent improvement rate for children who have a mental problem that has not responded to conventional treatment.

## Creatures with a healing power

BY IAN MURRAY  
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

DOLPHINS have the power to make people feel better just by their presence, according to a leading marine biologist.

"I cannot explain it in scientific terms but undoubtedly everyone who sees them in the wild is lifted by them," Jonathan Gordon, of Oxford University zoology department, said.

"You only ever see them in the wild if they want you to see them. They are the only wild animal that comes to man of their own free will and that makes you feel privileged. You get a buzz because they are joyful and you can prove scientifically that they spend a lot of their life playing."

Professor Gordon works for the International Fund for Animal Welfare

and spends months on the organisation's research boat. "If things aren't going well on the boat and you are depressed the sight of dolphins lifts you and makes you feel better at once. They cannot be doing this on purpose but I can well understand that people who are intensely depressed or suffering from some kind of mental blockage could be eased by swimming among them."

"I cannot go along with those who claim they have mystical powers but even though I am scientifically headed I have to admit they somehow make you feel good."

That view is shared by the authors of *Beyond the Blue*, a book on the healing power of dolphins. Its authors say that when the mind is calm it triggers the release of benzodiazepines, a natural form of Valium. "Although no-one has

measured the release of these chemicals following a dolphin encounter we know from our own experiences that being in the water can precipitate their release."

Jenny Sheridan, of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, said: "Swimming with dolphins will not repair any brain damage but if the child is suffering from lack of confidence it might help. If this boy has now discovered how to use his vocal cords he may well be able to talk properly in future. But the vocal cords are only a small part of the talking process."

Mark Simmonds, of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, said: "The interaction of dolphins with sick children can be instrumental in recovery. No one can explain why. But the behaviour of these beautiful animals induces awe and pleasure in children."

## Vicar's wife leaves family to set up home with chorister

THE wife of a village vicar has set up home with the lover she met during singing practice with the local choir.

In a move that has shocked the community of Brayton, North Yorkshire, the Rev David Reynolds, 58, has been left with the couple's 16-year-old son Paul after his wife Christine told him she was leaving him for family friend Cliff Broadhead.

She left the vicarage at the back of St Wilfrid's church, Brayton, a week ago and is understood to have set up home out of the area with Mr Broadhead, who lived near the church with his wife Dorothy. It is the third time in six years that the parish has been involved in marital escapades.

In 1992 the wife of the Rev Bob Rogers, a former vicar of St Wilfrid's, Brayton, and the then Rural Dean of Selby also left him for a chorister. He later remarried the former wife of another chorister.

Four years later, the Rev Ron Mitchinson, a former Selby coalfield industrial chaplain and Brayton team ministry member, left his wife Freda for a member of the congregation at St Wilfrid's 20 years his junior.

In the latest incident, Mrs Reynolds, who supervised the local Sunday school and worked part-time as a reli-

**Kathryn Knight reports on the village that has been plagued by marital escapades**

gious education teacher at the local high school, is understood to have moved out at the weekend after the couple were seen arguing in the village public house.

Last weekend's Mothering Sunday service, which was attended by Mr Broadhead's wife Dorothy and daughter Liz, was conducted by a replacement minister.

The Reynolds came to St Wilfrid's from their parish in Cornwall seven years ago and established themselves as vigorous members of the local community. However, it was this community spirit that led to the close relationship between Mrs Reynolds and Mr Broadhead, when she joined the Brayburn Singers, a local singing group, three years ago. The pair, both tenors, practised with the choir once a week at the Brayton Method-

ist hall and sang at local venues, performing old-fashioned religious theme songs.

Melvin Allan, a choir member and church warden, said: "I believe he is with Christine living out of the area. Dorothy was a close friend to Christine but probably not any more."

Yesterday, Steve Payne school deputy headmaster, confirmed that she had resigned with immediate effect. Tony Williams, another church warden, said: "The vicar is very upset and sad about the situation. He is a quiet man, very popular and dedicated, who gets things done yet always makes himself available for parishioners. "Parishioners have rallied round Mr Reynolds helping him in any way they can and he is very grateful."

Yesterday at her home in Brayton directly opposite the church, Mr Broadhead's wife, Dorothy, declined to comment. However, her daughter Liz said she had spoken to her father on the telephone: "The whole family is devastated. We don't want to say any more but my mother is not all right and neither am I. He is out of the area now so we cannot get in touch with him anymore."

Miss Broadhead, who has two brothers, said her mother Dorothy was being comforted by the family. She refused to comment on what she thought about Mrs Reynolds but said she had spoken to the vicar.

The Bishop of Selby, the Right Rev Humphrey Taylor, has been informed, and Mr Reynolds has been visited by the Rev Gwynne Richardson, Rural Dean of Selby. He said: "Along with other colleagues in the deanery I am giving whatever support and help I can to help David through this very sad time. He is a very good friend of mine and extremely well thought of by all his parishioners. "I am sure David will continue to do a very valuable job at St Wilfrid's as he has done for the past seven years."

Mr Reynolds said: "It's a personal matter, but I'm bearing up."

## Charity founder jailed for cruelty to rare pigs

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

THE owner of a rare breeds conservation trust was yesterday jailed for three months and banned from keeping animals for life after being found guilty of starving pigs following an investigation estimated to have cost the RSPCA £100,000.

David Watkiss, 58, who defended himself throughout the 2½-week trial, sought legal help only as the jail sentence loomed. He called on duty solicitor Patrick Haworth to lodge an immediate appeal as security guards tried to lead him away to police cells.

Magistrates refused an application for bail pending an appeal from Watkiss, from Prestwood, Buckinghamshire, who was convicted last month of 34 charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals, two of causing unnecessary distress and five of failing to dispose of carcasses. He was cleared on one charge of failing to dispose of a carcass.

Chairman of the bench Derek Miller said: "We have decided the offences are so serious this is the only way to deal with them. This is a prolonged period of deliberate cruelty to, and appalling neglect of these animals."

The co-owners of the Buckingham-based trust, Jeremy Smith and James Cozens, whom the court heard had no direct involvement with the animals, were fined £1,200 and £1,450 respectively for 27 convictions of permitting unnecessary suffering to animals, as owners.

Smith and Cozens were also ordered by magistrates in Amersham, Buckinghamshire, to pay £5,000 each towards the almost unprecedented prosecution costs. The trial had heard how Watkiss, Smith, 30, and Cozens, 42, had set up the unregistered charity, the Rare Breed Animal Conservation Trust at Dunsmore and North Dean, Buckinghamshire, in January 1996 to help get the unemployed and disabled back to work.



Christine Reynolds and her husband David

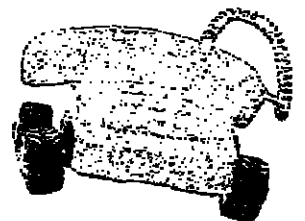
# If you knew how much you're being overcharged for life cover, the shock could kill you.

If you took out your life cover a while ago either to protect your mortgage or your family's lifestyle, you could be paying well over the odds.

But now that Direct Line provides life cover, you don't have to pay through the nose anymore. In fact, in only 10 minutes, you could be enjoying the same protection you enjoy now, for a much smaller monthly cost!

All it takes is one call - we'll even fill the forms in for you.

If you want life cover at a price that won't shock you, call Direct Line today.



0845 3000 733 PLEASE OBSERVE REFERENCE  
CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm weekdays and 9am to 5pm weekends.

Life cover 25p premium per £100,000 cover for 20 years. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is a member of the Direct Line Group. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is registered in England. Registered office: Direct Line House, 100 Brook Street, London W1A 1AA. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is authorised by the Financial Services Authority. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Direct Line Life Insurance Company Limited is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.



50

# Prisons chief embroiled in race dispute

### Claim that Afro-Caribbeans are more likely to die from suffocation sparks anger, writes Richard Ford

THE Director General of the Prison Service was involved in a race row last night after claiming that physical differences meant that Afro-Caribbeans were more likely to suffocate while being restrained by prison staff.

Richard Tilt's comments forced the Prison Service to issue a statement after it came under attack from a leading pathologist and prison reform groups.

They condemned Mr Tilt for comments that he made within hours of an inquest jury deciding that a remand prisoner had been unlawfully killed while being restrained in Blakenhurst private jail at Redditch. Hereford and Worcester.

Alton Manning, 33, an Afro-Caribbean, was on remand accused of rape when he died at the jail 2½ years ago. Six prison custody officers at the jail have been suspended from duty on full pay.

Seven prisoners died in jails in England and Wales while being restrained by prison officers between 1992 and 1995. Six of the seven men who died were Afro-Caribbeans.

Mr Tilt said that because the trend indicated that Afro-Caribbeans were more likely to die from positional asphyxia while being restrained, the Prison Service had commissioned research into the problem.

A Prison Service spokesman said yesterday that the research had been conducted internally by the directorate of health care, but that it had not been published. He added that the service was not considering publication, although information had been given on a confidential basis.

Positional asphyxia occurs when a person is held in a certain position and pressure is put on their windpipe. As criticism of Mr Tilt mounted, the Prison Service was forced to issue a statement explaining his comments.

It said that Mr Tilt was

"greatly concerned" at any upset his remarks may inadvertently have caused.

The statement added that the emerging evidence was linked to the inherited sickle cell condition among Afro-Caribbean people.

It claimed that this could make them more susceptible to positional asphyxia as a result of physical restraint.

#### WHAT HE SAID



"We conducted research and were advised that Afro-Caribbeans are more likely to suffer positional asphyxia than whites. That is the evidence that seems to be emerging, not just here but in other countries as well"

Richard Tilt on BBC's Newsnight

But the original claim and the clarifying statement was dismissed by a leading pathologist, who said that no normal carrier of sickle cell condition would ever expect to get into difficulties unless they were put under very powerful and extreme restraints.

Nat Cary, pathologist at Papworth hospital in Cam-

bridgeshire, said that he had never seen research suggesting that Afro-Caribbeans were particularly susceptible to positional asphyxia.

Dr Cary said yesterday: "I'm not aware of any published data in scientifically scrutinised journals that would suggest there's some fundamental physical difference between Afro-Caribbeans and Caucasians that would give rise to such an abnormality."

Dr Cary, currently conducting research into positional asphyxia, added: "I'm very surprised that such a suggestion should be made."

A spokesman for the Police Complaints Authority, which investigates deaths in police custody, said that it had had extensively researched the issue and had seen "no evidence to suggest one particular racial group is more likely to suffer from it."

Deborah Coles, of the pressure group Inquest, said she would be writing to Mr Tilt to demand an apology for his remarks. "This is absolutely without any scientific basis whatsoever," she said. "It's reminiscent of the sort of scientific racism we used to get in the last century."

"I find it totally offensive that, straight after an inquest jury has unanimously decided that a black prisoner was unlawfully killed, Richard Tilt is trying to deflect attention away from prison officers with racist theories, rather than focusing on the fact that disproportionate numbers of black prisoners die in custody."

Mr Tilt's comments come as the latest prison statistics for 1997 show that in June last year there were 11,500 ethnic minority prisoners.

Ethnic minority prisoners accounted for 18 per cent of the male population and 24 per cent of the female population, compared with 6 per cent of the male and female populations of England and Wales.



Ken Livingstone yesterday gave walkers an easy route to information. The Labour MP launched a Countryside Commission website that provides advice about national trails in southeast England. The address is [www.nationaltrails.gov.uk](http://www.nationaltrails.gov.uk)

# Fishermen's jobs go to save mussels

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH AND NICK NUTTALL

A TRADITIONAL Scottish cottage industry dating back hundreds of years ends today with the introduction of a total ban on fishing for freshwater pearl mussels.

The Government has taken the unprecedented step of giving the species full protection with immediate effect under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

It means that the freshwater pearl mussel has been outlawed. From today, anyone who disturbs a mussel bed will face a fine of up to £5,000 for each individual creature harmed.

The announcement by the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions was delivered as part of a review of the 1981 Act and gives protection to an additional 33 UK species, including basking sharks, bluebells and water voles.

But while the other animals, insects and plants will have to wait the usual 21 days before gaining their new status in law, it was decided to give the freshwater pearl mussel instant protection because of concerns that the beds might be destroyed in the rush.

The dark brown pearl mussel, which grows up to six inches long and four inches wide, was fished in Roman times but has been in serious decline in Britain for more than 25 years.

A recent survey revealed only one small colony in England and one in Wales. In Scotland there are now just ten rivers with colonies, seven with populations in the hundreds and only three with healthy populations of 100,000.

He predicted that it would take the species, which lives up to 100 years and does not breed until it is at least 15 years old, at least three decades to recover significantly enough for any relaxation of the ban to be even considered.

Over 30 other plants, animals, insects and fungi from the basking shark to the sandy still potfall gained together protection yesterday.

Michael Meacher, the environment minister, said 33 species under threat from a variety of sources including collectors, both thieves and fishing, were being added to schedules under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. He also announced that one species, Viper's Bugloss moth, were being removed as it is now considered extinct.

Wildlife campaigners welcomed the announcements, especially the listing of the basking shark, Britain's biggest fish. Little is known about the giant, 35ft, plankton-eating shark but there is evidence its numbers are declining in British waters and worldwide as it falls victim to the trade in shark fins for soup in Asia.

The additions cover 11 animal species whose intentional killing, injury, disturbance and sale is outlawed. These include the water vole and the stag beetles.



Stag beetle: now protected

## WHEN YOU THINK YOU HAVE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE, LISTEN

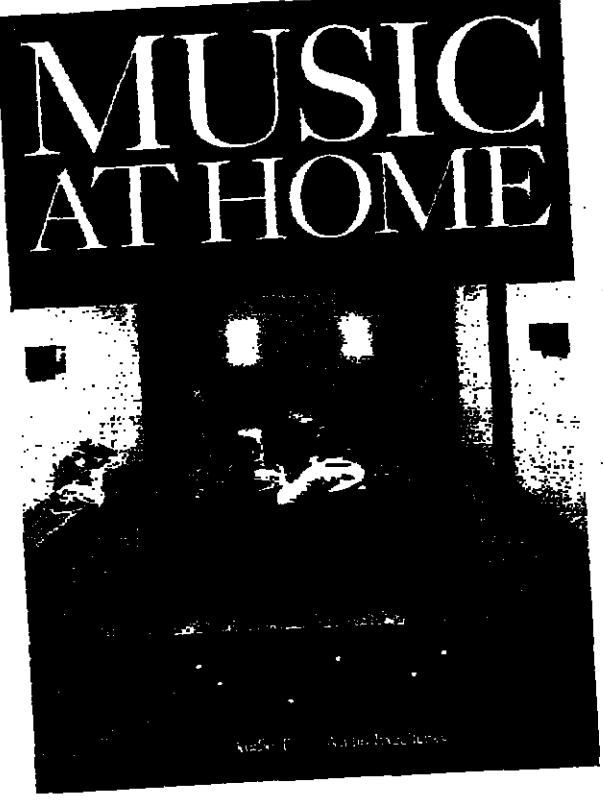
Start hearing the nuances. Appreciate the subtleties. Revel in the shades. Enjoy music afresh.

To give your ears a new lease on life, FREEPHONE 0500 101501, or complete and return the freepost coupon below.

By return we will send you a copy of **MUSIC AT HOME: The Ultimate Guide**, telling you all you need to know about the very best in audio and home entertainment equipment.

Even if you cannot tell hertz from Hertz, the options will soon become clear.

The guide is FREE. The equipment costs less than you think.



Please send me my FREE copy of MUSIC AT HOME - The Ultimate Guide (UK only) NAME ADDRESS POST CODE Music at Home TM2703, Freepost LY1747, Abingdon, OX14 4YQ

WARNING: THIS GUIDE WILL MAKE YOU WANT TO LISTEN TO MUSIC AGAIN

## No danger from eating beef, BSE inquiry told

EATING beef cannot infect human beings with "mad cow" disease, it was claimed yesterday. Two leading scientists also told the public inquiry into BSE that nearly 2.5 million cattle had been needlessly slaughtered and the European Union ban on British beef was unjustified.

Alan Ebringer, Professor of Immunology, and John Pirt, Emeritus Professor of Microbiology, both from King's College London, said they believed BSE was an autoimmune disease triggered by a bacterial infection. They said that this happened by a process known as "molecular mimicry" where the body was infected by bacteria which shared a similar sequence of amino acids with a particular body tissue.

As a result, the antibodies produced by the immune system to knock out the alien bug also attacked and destroyed the healthy tissue because they could not distinguish the one from the other.

Professor Ebringer said the process could be compared to "friendly fire" in wartime

Scientists say cattle cull and EU ban unjustified, Michael

Hornsby reports

where troops mistakenly fired on one of their own aircraft because it had a similar profile to that of an enemy machine. "If our theory is correct, then the cattle cull has been unnecessary and there is no danger from eating beef and never has been", Professor Ebringer said after giving his evidence. "More research should be done to test the theory."

The two professors said they believed the microbe which caused BSE was acinetobacter, an organism found in the gut of cattle which had a similar molecular sequence to myelin, a protein in the animals' brains. They argued

that the bug triggered an autoimmune attack on brain tissue, causing damage that would lock the spine as the minute holes left by BSE.

This was a much more plausible explanation for BSE, they claimed, than the now widely accepted prion protein theory for which Professor Stanley Prusiner, of the University of California, was recently awarded a Nobel prize. Prions, according to Professor Prusiner, are deformed versions of healthy proteins found in the brains of all animals. When present in the brain the misshapen proteins change the shape of the normal ones in a chain reaction that eventually destroys the brain.

Most scientists have been persuaded by the Prusiner thesis, but some still regard it as biological heresy because it posits the existence of an infectious protein that has no genetic material, unlike any other known infectious agent.

In support of their autoimmune disease theory, Professors Ebringer and Pirt said they had done tests showing that cattle infected with BSE also had abnormally high levels of acinetobacter antibodies.

They said that other tests had shown that scrapie - spongiform encephalopathy in sheep - could not be transmitted to mice which had been bred for experimental purposes with non-functioning immune systems.

"To an immunologist an alternative explanation immediately suggests itself", they said in a paper prepared for the inquiry. "The disease is not caused by 'prions' but by the immune system of the animal itself, as there is no immune system, there is no disease."

The one point on which Professor Ebringer and Professor Pirt said they agreed with other scientists was in identifying cattle feed as being the transmission route for infection.

They said they believed that the acinetobacter microbe could have passed to cattle in "green offal", mainly livers, which was ground up and included with other cattle and sheep remains in meat and bone meal rations.

## Farmers warned on livestock burials

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

THE Agriculture Minister, Jack Cunningham, said yesterday he would take action against any farmers found breaking health rules on burying animals on their farms.

Livestock burials have increased because knackermen will no longer pay to take away dead or injured animals, which they used to process into products such as meat and bone meal.

Since the BSE crisis, such by-products no longer have a commercial market. Farmers now have to pay a knackerman up to £55 to take a dead cow away and £15 for a sheep. Before BSE, knackermen would pay up to £15 for a cow and remove a sheep free.

On-farm burial is legal, provided farmers follow guidelines which require that the burials are at least 250

metres from a water supply, or 50 metres from a river or other water course. The carcasses must also be covered by a metre of soil.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's Today programme, Dr Cunningham said: "If animals are suspected of having a notifiable disease it would be an offence to dispose of it in this way."

He added: "If people bring forward tangible evidence, concrete proof, that this is a widespread problem then we will investigate it thoroughly and take appropriate action."

Dr Cunningham dismissed as "nonsense" suggestions that cows infected with BSE were being buried. Farmers would get compensation of over £500 animal for declaring a BSE suspect, but would get nothing for burying it, he said.

## Meat-free diet cuts risk to the heart

BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

GIVING up eating meat reduces the risk of dying from heart disease by almost a quarter but makes no difference to the danger of developing a fatal bowel cancer, according to a survey of all the data available on deaths among Western vegetarians.

The findings appear to contradict some research that has suggested a strong link between meat consumption and cancer. Researchers from the Imperial Cancer Research Fund pooled information from five studies - two in Britain, two in America and one in Germany - covering 76,000 people, of whom 28,000 were vegetarians.

The health of the people in the studies was followed for at least 11 years, during which time 8,300 died. The researchers then compared the death rates from different causes between the vegetarians and non-vegetarians.

They found that, on average, the death rate from heart disease was 24 per cent lower for vegetarians, but was 45 per cent lower for those under 65 provided that they had given up meat for at least five years.

The researchers also divided up the non-vegetarians into two groups - those who only ate fish or ate meat less than once a week, and those who ate meat regularly.

The figures showed that there was a 22 per cent reduced risk among semi-vegetarians, and a 34 per cent decrease among vegetarians when compared with the death rates from heart disease among regular meat eaters. According to their research, published today in *Public Health Nutrition*, the most likely explanation is that vegetarians have lower levels of cholesterol in their blood.

There was no evidence, however, that a vegetarian diet made any difference to the risk of dying from bowel cancer, or to statistically significant lower risk of deaths from breast, prostate, lung or stomach cancers.



# PC in Lawrence case accused of failing in duty

Adrian Lee reports from the judicial inquiry

A POLICE officer failed to pass on a description of Stephen Lawrence's killer to colleagues working on the case in the vital minutes after the murder, it was alleged yesterday.

PC Anthony Gleason admitted at the judicial inquiry into Stephen's death that he could not remember making a radio call from the hospital where he had interviewed the victim's friend, Duwayne Brooks, who had seen the gang of attackers. He said he felt sure he would have done so. However, there was no record of it ever having been received in the control room, the inquiry was told.

Stephen Kamlish, representing the Lawrence family, also alleged that PC Gleason, 32, failed to communicate with Stephen's parents at the hospital where he died. PC Gleason denied he had been insensitive, claiming he did speak to Stephen's father, Neville. Mr Lawrence has no recollection of the conversation. The officer said he took Mr Lawrence to identify his son's body at 11.02pm on the night of April 22, 1993, although records show that formal identification was carried out the next morning.

As the officer gave his evidence, Sir William MacPherson of Cluny, who is chairing the inquiry, commented: "It looks very much to me as if the liaison with the family [at the hospital] was hopeless because they feel very much that no attention was paid to them at all."

PC Gleason agreed that a senior policeman should have been sent to the hospital. He said that he had never been given proper training in how to deal with the bereaved.

On numerous occasions during two hours of questioning, the officer, who was in uniform, said he could not remember the events of the night of April 22. He could not recall touching Stephen's body, despite insisting that there had been an examination. "I felt that he was best left



Gleason: denied he that had been insensitive

in the position he was in. "To bleed to death?" Mr Kamlish asked.

"I did not know he was going to bleed to death," PC Gleason said.

The inquiry, which aims to establish what went wrong with the investigation into Stephen's murder at a bus stop in South London, was told that PC Gleason had already been investigated and cleared, by the Police Complaints Authority over his treatment of Stephen and his dealings with the family.

PC Gleason was one of the first officers at the scene. Among the second wave was former PC Joanne Smith, his wife. She denied that she stood doing nothing when she should have been looking for clues and suspects. She said she was trying to calm Mr Brooks, Stephen's friend, but he was upset and abusive, swearing at her and saying that he did not want "the pigs" at the scene.

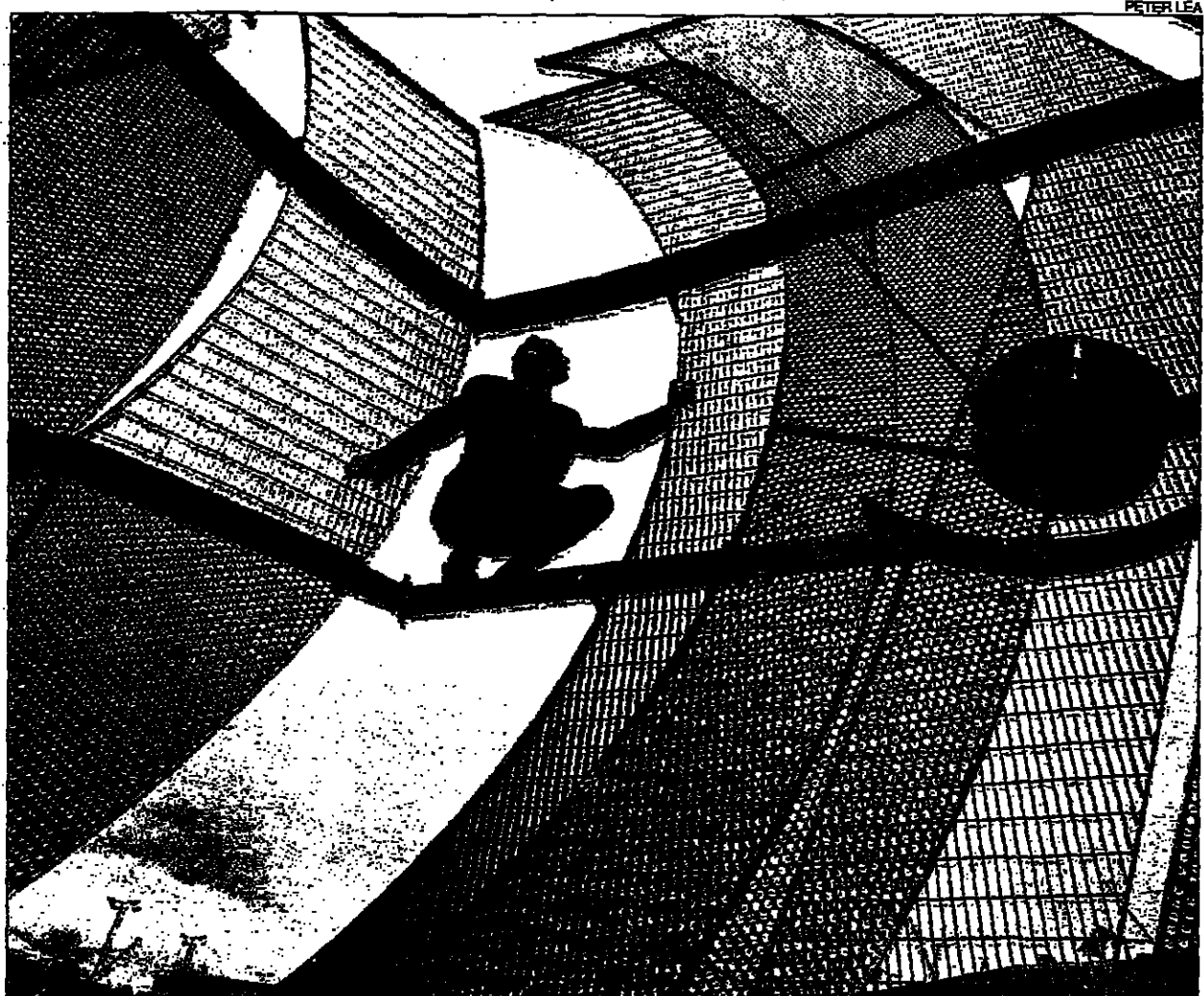
She denied elaborating her account to cover up her inactivity. She said that she was "upset and hurt" to be branded a racist by those who were critical of the police handling of the case. Neither officer could recall any specific examples of racist behaviour by colleagues but admitted they may have heard occasional racist jokes.

It was also suggested that PC Gleason had left the scene of the attack in Eltham

because he could not cope with the situation. PC Gleason denied this and said he checked Stephen's body but failed to find the stab wounds to his chest and then went to look for an ambulance.

Sergeant Nigel Clement told the inquiry he was involved in house-to-house inquiries in the days after the murder. He said he was aware that police had the names of suspects but did not know who they were. Sir William said: "So, if you walked into a house with several Accours [two of the suspects] in it, it would not have meant anything to you at all?"

Sgt Clement replied: "Probably not." Sir William said: "It just strikes me that in that case your visits to the houses were totally useless." The hearing continues.



A 110yd-long sculpture entitled *The Chevron Variations*, by Art Brenner, an American artist, was unveiled at a retail park in Worcester yesterday. The piece is designed to block the view of an adjoining factory

## Women bishops prompt boycott

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

TRADITIONALISTS are planning boycotts of an international conference of the Anglican Church in protest at the presence of women bishops.

Two bishops have already said they will not be attending the Lambeth conference, the ten-yearly meeting of leaders of the 70-million strong Anglican communion, which opens in Canterbury in July. About 50 other traditionalist bishops intend to boycott elements of the three-week conference.

Eleven women bishops from Canada, New Zealand and America are expected to attend the gathering, which is likely to prove a strong test of the leadership of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey. Deep divisions will emerge over issues such as homosexuality as well as women bishops.

The two Anglo-Catholic bishops who will stay away are the Right Rev Keith Benzie and the Right Rev Donald Smith, both expatriates in Madagascar.

## Couple prayed quietly for youth as he lay dying

A COUPLE prayed for Stephen Lawrence as he lay dying, the inquiry was told.

Conor Taaffe and his wife, Louise, who had just left a church meeting, stroked the 18-year-old's hair as he struggled to breathe. Mr Taaffe, 32, told police: "I was praying in a whisper 'Bless him, Lord Jesus, keep him Lord Jesus, have mercy on him.'"

He told the inquiry yesterday that his wife "put her hands on his head for comfort, she spoke in his ear. I thought it was such a lovely thing for her to do. Both of us knew that the hearing was one of the last things to go, and she said 'You are loved, you are loved.'"

Mr Taaffe said he believed that Stephen had died before he went to hospital and that even a surgeon on the scene could not have saved him.

He and his wife went to their nearby parish church to pray as the teenager was being taken to hospital. When Mr Taaffe arrived home, he washed Stephen's blood from his hands into a container and poured the water under a rose bush in his garden.

"I thought in some ways perhaps he is living on a bit," the advertising manager told the inquiry.

Stephen Lawrence's father, Neville, left the room during the evidence and people in the public gallery wept. Doreen Lawrence was also at yesterday's hearing.

Mr Taaffe said that when he returned to the scene between half-an-hour and a hour later he saw no sign of



Stephen Lawrence was comforted as he died

much police activity. Mr Taaffe said he first saw Stephen Lawrence jogging down the street, clutching his chest. His friend Duwayne looked terrified and panic-stricken. Then Stephen stumbled and fell to the ground.

Mr Taaffe's first thought was that it was a prank, or a ruse, to lure him into a mugging but he quickly realised that the teenager was badly hurt. He saw blood coming from his body, heard him choking and realised that he was having difficulty breathing.

Mr Taaffe said he was aware of racial tension in the area. Another teenager had been knifed to death in July 1992, on the day he and his wife returned from their honeymoon. After Stephen Lawrence's death he had seen racist slogans daubed on a wall not far from the scene of the murder.

"Every time I see a black person now in Eltham, I just feel for them," he said.



## For unbelievably pin sharp photos and documents, look no further.



Only EPSON has a unique Piezo Crystal print head which guarantees pin sharp prints every time. This gives EPSON a distinct edge when it comes to producing high quality photo and text print outs.

In fact EPSON Photo Reproduction Quality is so good it gives you prints which rival those produced by high street developers. And if your prints look good, imagine what your other documents will look like.

EPSON PhotoEnhance mode will automatically adjust brightness, exposure and contrast, leaving you with truly superb results. You'll even be able to print from 4"x6" right up to A4.

The EPSON Stylus Photo also comes with Live Pix (V1.0) photo editing software, which means you can manipulate your photos at the touch of a button, even remove red eye. And of course it's Windows and Apple Mac compatible.

We'll even throw in a sample paper pack to help get you started. All this for around £259.

For more information on the EPSON Stylus Photo call 0800 220 546 or pop into your local EPSON dealer.



EPSON-THERE'S NO COMPARISON

**StMungo's**

Were you a member of staff or resident before 1980?

We would like any information or reminiscences you have

Reunion possible, thanks certain

Please write to: John Lane, St Mungo's, Atlantic House, 1-3 Rockley Road, London W14 0DJ or phone 0181 600 3001.

Friendly society No. 205881 Housing Association No. LM0279

ating told

shermen's obs go to ve mussels



### Hearing aid hope is tiny implant

By Helen Johnstone

TRIALS are under way in Britain on an ear implant smaller than a grain of rice that researchers believe will revolutionise life for the hard of hearing and spare many the stigma of wearing a hearing aid.

Surgeons at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, are testing the technique which has been pioneered by David Proops, a senior ear specialist at the hospital. A meeting in Amsterdam recently between British doctors and their European colleagues, who have been carrying out similar trials, confirmed overwhelming benefits.

The device bypasses the external ear, meaning the only thing worn on the outside is a small sound processor attached to the skull under the hair by a magnet. However the aid, which uses miniaturised high-tech equipment half the size of a grain of rice to stimulate the bones of the middle ear, costs at least £5,000 to supply and insert - 100 times more than conventional hearing aids.

Mr Proops said: "The clinical trials have shown this works and we now need to do some more studies with more patients so we can assess the benefits."

## Army stepfather denies snatching girl from bed

### Private rejects accusations of murdering nine-year-old in an attempted assault that went 'terribly wrong'

THE soldier accused of murdering his nine-year-old stepdaughter yesterday denied snatching her from her bed and killing her in an assault that went "dreadfully wrong".

Private Miles Evans rejected suggestions from the prosecution that he actually intended to kill the little girl only at the "last minute" after she would not keep quiet. And he denied he had nearly admitted killing Zoe Evans when detectives questioned him about the discovery of his T-shirt stained with her blood. Private Evans, who denies murdering Zoe on January 11 last year, agreed during his cross-examination that - barring a mystery intruder to their home in Warmminster, Wiltshire - only a parent would have been able to take Zoe silently from the house at night.

The prosecution alleges he took her from the terrace house, attacked and murdered her, and then buried her in a badger sett on nearby Battlesbury Hill. Zoe's naked body was found six weeks later by police searchers.

She suffocated because of a crop-top garment pushed into her mouth, and inhaling her



Zoe Evans was found buried in badger sett

blood from her nose allegedly broken by his fist. The prosecution suggest she may have been the target of abuse or attempted abuse.

The jury of eight women and four men at Bristol Crown Court has heard how police searchers found a T-shirt belonging to Private Evans in a corpse at the rear of a house and a pair of Zoe's underpants in a nearby field in the shadow of the Hill. Both garments were stained with her blood.

The T-shirt bore stains of Private Evans's semen, which he said came from making love to his wife days before the

girl disappeared. The private, an army driver, maintained that he had last seen his T-shirt two weeks earlier on his washing line.

Nigel Pascoe QC, for the prosecution, suggested a possible sequence of events leading to Zoe's death. A parent, he said, could have fondled her and frightened her. The parent would have to make the child promise not to scream and if she did not then might "lash out" at her.

Private Evans said that although he pulled the handles of his front and rear doors to push home locking bolts, he did not use a key to lock them. He said he understood that pulling the handle would secure the doors against intruders.

Mr Pascoe said Private Evans wanted the court to believe there was an insecure door for an intruder to come in and take Zoe and his T-shirt.

Private Evans agreed that if the doors were locked they would stop an intruder. And he accepted that only someone who feared a link with Zoe would have to bury her body.

Mr Pascoe said: "If it is not Paula, and a mystery intruder cannot get in, that leaves only



Miles Evans denied claims that he almost confessed

one person coming from inside to outside, doesn't it?"

Evans replied: "Yes."

The QC went on: "And that is you and your T-shirt."

Evans said: "Yes." He told the court he had not been seen crying over Zoe's death because he did not cry, even from friends.

The jury heard a short section of a police interview

tape from the day of his arrest, July 17. He was told of the recovery of the bloodstained T-shirt and a detective suggested that he was responsible for the murder and burial of Zoe.

After a long pause Evans replied: "No." Mr Pascoe suggested that he had "very nearly admitted it." Evans replied: "No."

The trial continues.

### Girls use smoking 'to attract boyfriends'

By Helen Johnstone

A STUDY of 3,500 British schoolchildren has found that teenage girls believe 'being seen with a cigarette is one of the best ways to attract a boyfriend'.

Smoking shows they are more grown-up and is a sign of sexual maturity, new Government research into smoking suggests. It believes that the current health education programme on the dangers of smoking has had little effect on the adolescents it is targeting.

The study at the University of Sussex was commissioned by the Department of Health in response to growing concerns over the rise of smoking among teenage girls. Researchers Dr Kevin Lucas and Dr Barbara Lloyd were asked to look at ways of reducing smoking in pregnancy by 2000.

Dr Lucas said they found a complex relationship between sexual maturity and smoking and indications that non-smokers and smokers perceived smokers as more rebellious and fun as opposed to non-smokers who were seen as sensible and quiet.

"Sexually mature boys are more likely to smoke than immature boys of any age between 11 and 16, but from the age of 14, sexually immature girls are more likely to start smoking than their sexually mature friends," he said. "Teenage girls use smoking as a badge of maturity."

### Father hid son's brutal death for four years

A brutal father who battered his baby to death and hid the truth for four years was jailed for life yesterday. The Old Bailey was told that Vikraman Pillai forced his wife, Anurtha, to tell police that their son, Vijay, had fallen down stairs.

After a police inquiry in May 1994, a verdict of accidental death was recorded at a coroner's court. But Mrs Pillai, 25, went to police last year after the marriage had broken down and told how her husband had smashed the one-year-old baby's head against a wall because he would not stop crying.

Pillai, 33, from Stratford, East London, was found guilty of murder. He said that he had lied to protect his wife.

### Café crash

A tipper truck crashed into a village café after colliding with a car at Conboe, Co Durham. A customer, his young son and two women staff escaped injury. Police left the lorry wedged in the door until after checks for structural damage.

### Ravine death

A man was found dead after his car plunged 30ft into a remote river ravine on Skye, Lochie, Caernarfon, 68, from Durneigan on the island, was driving on the A850 Sligachan to Struan road in bad weather when the accident happened.

### Morrison charge

A charge against Mark Morrison that he had an offensive weapon - a truncheon - was dismissed - by Marylebone magistrates yesterday. The singer was jailed on Tuesday for 12 months for not carrying out a community service order.

### Small comfort

Prince's Park in Burntwood, Staffordshire, which measures 29½ by 15½ and contains three trees, has been named Britain's smallest park in *The Guinness Book of Records*. The park, created in 1863, is on Lichfield council's tourist trail.

### Priest accused

A Catholic priest was charged with stealing £104,750 from Southwark diocese. Father Seamus Hetherington, 67, former priest at the Church of the Holy Apostle in Swanley, Kent, was remanded on bail by Dartford magistrates.

### In hot water

A man hid for 40 minutes in an immersion tank in the loft of a hairdresser's shop in Southampton as police searched for suspected burglars. He was arrested with three others when he eventually emerged, steaming.

# Dixons

## SAVE UP TO £60 ON TOP BRAND TVs & VIDEOS

### Interest Free Option ON SELECTED PRODUCTS

**PRICE CHECK** **PRICE**  
**WE CAN'T BE BEATEN**  
Every week we check the prices of hundreds of products in the national press to make sure that Dixons Price Check prices can't be beaten.\*

**TOP BRAND VIDEOS FROM UNDER £110**

**MATSUI VXT105**  
LONG PLAY VIDEO WITH REMOTE CONTROL  
• 8 hours' timewarp timer  
• Index search  
• SCART socket  
• Remote control  
**£109.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**SONY**  
2200 LONG PLAY VIDEO WITH VIDEOPLUS  
• On-screen display  
• Auto tuning  
• Index search  
• Video Plus with PDC  
• VHS £229.99  
**£199.99**

**SANYO VXR77E**  
4-HEAD NICAM STEREO VIDEO  
• Long play facility  
• Video Plus with PDC  
• VHS £299.99  
**£239.99**

**HITACHI VTR500**  
NICAM STEREO VIDEO  
• Long play facility  
• Video Plus with PDC  
• VHS £279.99  
**£259.99**

**MATSUI VP940S** LONG PLAY VIDEO WITH VIDEOPLUS AND PDC  
• On-screen display  
• Auto set-up. VHS £139.99.  
**£124.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**SONY KV22F1** NICAM STEREO TV  
• 50cm visible screen size  
• Fasttext with 10 page memory  
• Sleep timer, Child lock  
• Supplied with a TV/Video stand.  
VHS £479.99  
**£429.99**  
Dixons Deal

**TV/VIDEO PACKAGE**  
**SAVE AN EXTRA £50**  
WHEN YOU BUY THE SONY KV22F1 TV AND THE SONY SLV720 VIDEO TOGETHER  
Total Separate Selling Price £729.98  
**PACKAGE PRICE £679**  
6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION\*

**SONY SLV720** 4-HEAD NICAM STEREO VIDEO  
• Video Plus and PDC  
• Widescreen recording and playback  
• NTSC playback on PAL TV.  
Dixons Deal  
**£299.99**

**LARGE SCREEN TVs FROM UNDER £180**

**MATSUI 20" VIT**  
20" TELETEXT TV  
• 50cm visible screen size  
• Sleep timer  
• Remote control  
**£179.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**GRUNDIG ST1725**  
21" NICAM STEREO TV WITH FASTTEXT  
• 50cm visible screen size  
• Sleep timer  
• Fasttext  
VHS £289.99  
**£269.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**MATSUI 200PL**  
20" DOLBY PRO LOGIC SURROUND SOUND TV  
• 50cm visible screen size  
• VHS £499.99  
**£449.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**MATSUI TVR625** 14" ANTI-THEFT COMBINED TV AND VIDEO  
• 34cm visible screen size  
• On-screen display  
• VHS £239.99  
**£249.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**MATSUI 14VIT** 14" COLOUR TV  
• 34cm visible screen size  
• On-screen display  
• In-store Price £189.99  
**£119.99**  
Exclusive to Dixons Retail Ltd

**WATCH OUT FOR OUR VOUCHER SPECIALS!**  
Look out for the special voucher coverage on selected products throughout the advertisement. Simply take it to the relevant Dixons store to claim your discount.  
One voucher saving per purchase. Some voucher offers are an alternative to existing offers. Not for use with other offers. Search for only Dixons using Code 3 Great Offer effect. EXPIRES: These voucher prices valid until Monday, 20th March 1998.

**3 WAYS TO BUY**  
• 360 STORES NATIONWIDE  
• ON-LINE SHOP: www.dixons.co.uk  
• ORDER HOTLINE: 0800 68 28 88

# Dixons

There's a Great Deal going on

**INTEREST FREE OPTION** Account to interest free if repaid in full before for with the 6th monthly payment. Terms & Conditions: Cash price £499.99, 20% deposit of £100.00, loan amount £399.99. **0% INTEREST** 29.99% APR 48 monthly payments of £22.00 (Total amount payable: £1059.92). **29.99% APR** 48 monthly payments of £22.00 (Total amount payable: £1059.92). **29.99% APR** 48 monthly payments of £22.00 (Total amount payable: £1059.92). \*All items subject to credit approval. 2% on credit over £1000. **0% INTEREST** 29.99% APR 48 monthly payments of £22.00 (Total amount payable: £1059.92). \*All items subject to credit approval. 2% on credit over £1000.

## TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

In the 100-page glossy magazine

### EASTWOOD

on love, betrayal and palimony and in metro

# LONDON FOR LESS

THIS SPRING £32 PER NIGHT

Spring is in the air. London's famous parks are blooming. Pavement bars and cafes are buzzing, while the city's monuments are coming to life in the spring sun's warm glow.

What better time to visit the capital? And where better to stay than a Forte hotel? We've something for everyone - from 5 star luxury to exceptional family value in the very heart of London's West End.

## FORTE

Offer available between 3-19 April 1998 and 1-4 and 22-31 May 1998

\*Single supplementary charge applicable to all bookings. Prices are per person, per night including accommodation, full breakfast (and dinner when including a VOT at 17.5% based on 2 adults sharing a bed/double room for a minimum of 2 nights.

Book before 5th April 1998. See your travel agent or call 0345 40 40 40

BOOK BEFORE 5th APRIL 1998. SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL 0345 40 40 40

BOOK BEFORE 5th APRIL 1998. SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL 0345 40 40 40

BOOK BEFORE 5th APRIL 1998. SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL 0345 40 40 40

Veis park costs

Killer of...

of...



# Neighbour's parking feud costs £100,000

Simon de Bruxelles reports how dispute over land led to threats of violence and 27 court hearings

A DISPUTE between neighbours over parking in a quiet cul-de-sac which escalated into ten years of open warfare was ended by a judge yesterday after 27 court hearings and more than £100,000 in costs.

Clive Pearson, a property manager, and his wife Elizabeth, a solicitor, had lived next door to Gerard Rimmer in the peaceful Somerset hamlet of Compton Martin since 1975. But when Mr Rimmer began objecting to them parking outside his house the lace curtains began to twitch. The row culminated in threats of violence and an attempt by the Pearsons to "annex" a six-inch strip of Mr Rimmer's garden. Yesterday Mr Rimmer, a 66-year-old retired computer engineer, emerged triumphant after a judge found in his favour.

The recorder, John Aspinall, QC, said: "This trial has been anxious and has not been a pleasant task. But the trial has had to take place and I have had to make a judgment which has brought me no pleasure."

After his victory, Mr Rimmer said: "I am glad this is over but I shall never talk to

the Pearsons again. Hopefully we can have peace now but if they try to encroach on my borders again I shall have to repel them."

Bristol County Court heard that for 13 years, the neighbours had co-existed quite happily in the hamlet in the affluent Chew Valley south of Bristol. But relations deteriorated when Mr Rimmer decided to photograph the Pearsons every time he felt they were parking in an "inappropriate" place.

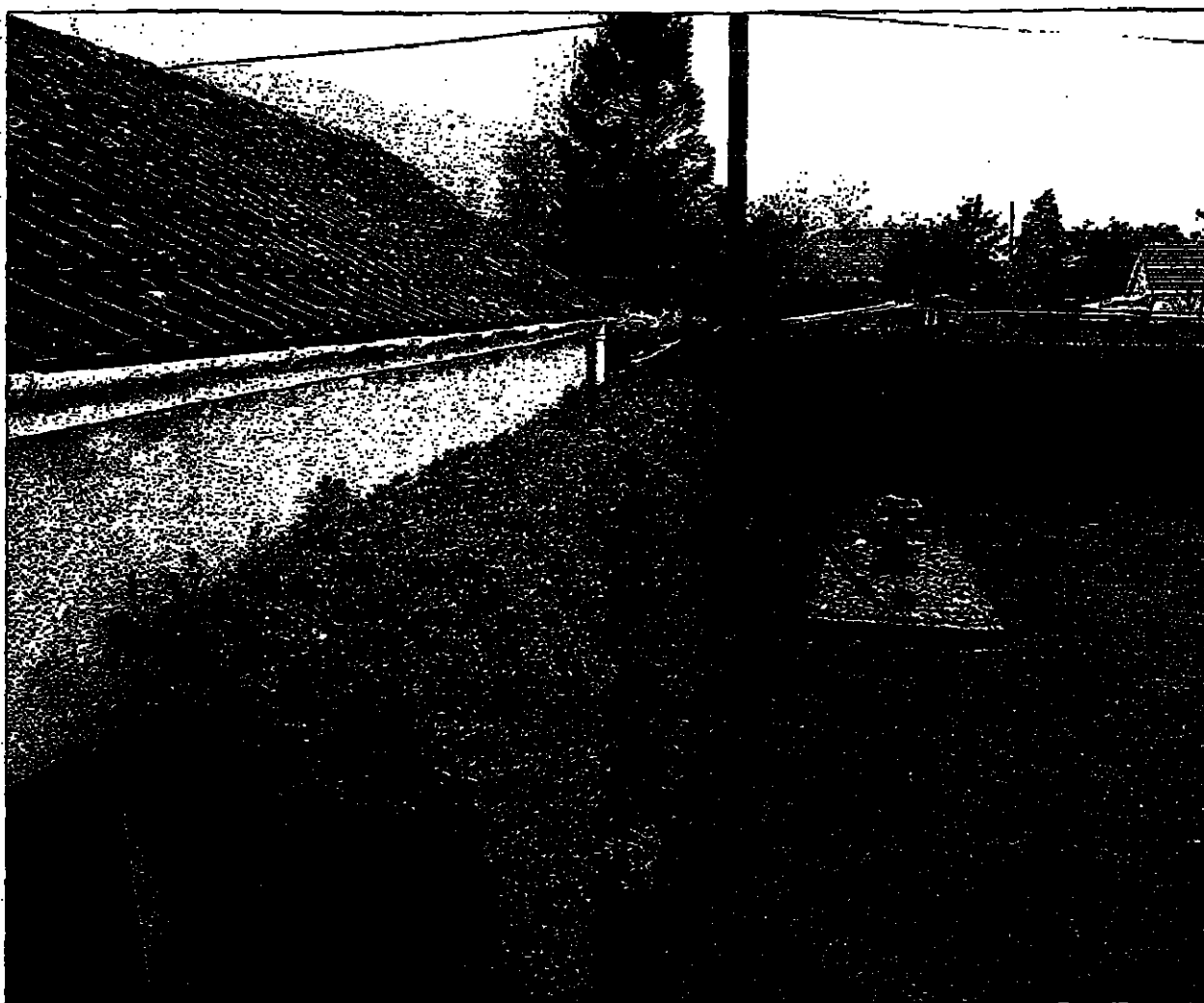
In 1991, the neighbours almost came to blows when Mr Rimmer accused the Pearsons

of turning off the tap on his fuel oil tank. Mr Pearson stormed round to his house and began banging on the windows and Mr Rimmer admitted he waved a knife at his neighbour "in self-defence".

By that summer, the recorder told the court, there was "a simmering discord" between the two parties. The Pearsons, both in their late 40s, took exception to Mr Rimmer's rendition of *My Old Man's a Dustman* and other songs he sang in the back garden.

In June 1992, Mr Pearson took down his dilapidated garden fence and erected a barbed wire replacement six inches on to Mr Rimmer's property intertwined with his prized yew hedge. Mr Rimmer waited until the Pearsons left for a five-week holiday then snipped out the barbed wire and erected a new wooden fence along what he believed was the official boundary using a plumb line.

In October that year Mr Pearson learned that Mr Rimmer had applied for a firearm certificate and decided to build a high wall topped by a fence between the houses.



The disputed boundary hedge between the Pearsons' property, to the left, and Mr Rimmer's in Compton Martin

Mr Pearson told the court: "My intention was to erect a fence so Rimmer could not look out of his window and attack anyone in my garden."

The builder employed to erect the barrier began lifting stones from the front drive to use as foundations which Mr Rimmer claimed belonged to him. A stone was thrown.

The neighbours found they could not communicate with-

out the threat of violence and in 1993 Mr Rimmer issued a county court writ against the Pearsons. The subsequent hearing, which was originally set to last three days, ran to five years and 27 court appearances.

Speaking after his victory, Rimmer said yesterday: "This trial has taken up a large part of my life and I have suffered enormously."

"The time and expense has been enormous. At one point I thought I might even have to sell my house. Mrs Pearson is a solicitor and she has tried to tarnish my name throughout this with a number of wild accusations."

Mr Pearson, who is now facing another court appearance to fix apportionment of the costs, said: "Obviously we are very disappointed with the

judge's decision. But we are glad that this long and protracted action is over. It has been very stressful and distressing for both families involved."

Mr Rimmer offered to pay £10,000 towards the estimated £100,000 costs of the case, but the recorder ordered a further hearing to settle the matter after the figure was rejected by the Pearsons.



Rimmer took photos of Pearsons parking

## Theatrical costumier gets sinking feeling

By Philip Delves Broughton

A MAN who once turned down a chance to book the Beatles has admitted he refused a contract to provide the costumes for *Titanic*.

Lionel Digby, a theatrical supplier of Torquay, Devon, was putting a brave face on his second piece of bad luck. "I've no regrets. The clothes would have got soaked," he said.

Mr Digby was offered £10,000-a-week for his Edwardian costumes. "I know I will now always be known as the man who said no to *Titanic*," he said, "but I just never thought it would be a hit."

"I also couldn't stand the thought of my lovely uniforms and evening suits coming back shrunken and faded from all that water."

Mr Digby has been asked to provide, among other things, 100 tail suits. He was told they all had to be size 42 so the actors could wear wet suits. Even though the contract could have meant hiring the uniforms for months, making Mr Digby a small fortune, he told the American film-makers to look elsewhere.

In 1963, when a West Country-based rock and roll promoter, Brian Epstein offered him the Beatles for hire for £150-a-week, "Epstein offered them to me for tours of ballrooms in Devon and Cornwall. I thought they were only worth £100 a week," Mr Digby said. "That is one decision I did regret."

## Killer showed no sign of insanity, court told

By Russell Jenkins

A DOCTOR who examined a man accused of murdering a judge's daughter and kidnapping a teenage girl, said he showed no signs of insanity, Liverpool Crown Court heard yesterday.

Dr Brian Lightowler, a police surgeon with Greater Manchester Police who is authorised to act under the Mental Health Act, saw Nicholas Burton, 28, four times in three days after his arrest last April.

Burton, from New Mills, Derbyshire, has pleaded not guilty to murdering Rachel McGrath, 27, on April 25, last year and not guilty to kidnapping Debra Van Gerko, 17, and then falsely imprisoning her and making a threat to kill her.

Defence counsel do not dispute that Burton committed the acts involved in the offences but that he was insane

at the time or suffering from an abnormality of the mind that diminished his responsibility. The jury had earlier been told by Anthony Gee, QC, for the prosecution, that Burton had told a psychiatrist that "voices in his head" had driven him to commit the crimes.

Dr Lightowler said that when he first met Burton at Stockport Police station he found him to be "quite a pleasant young man" who displayed no evidence of mental illness.

Dr Lightowler told the court: "He was lucid and knew exactly where he was. He was fully orientated. He did not allude to any problems. He did not say he was depressed and he appeared lucid and coherent."

There was no suggestion during these visits that Burton was hearing hallucinatory

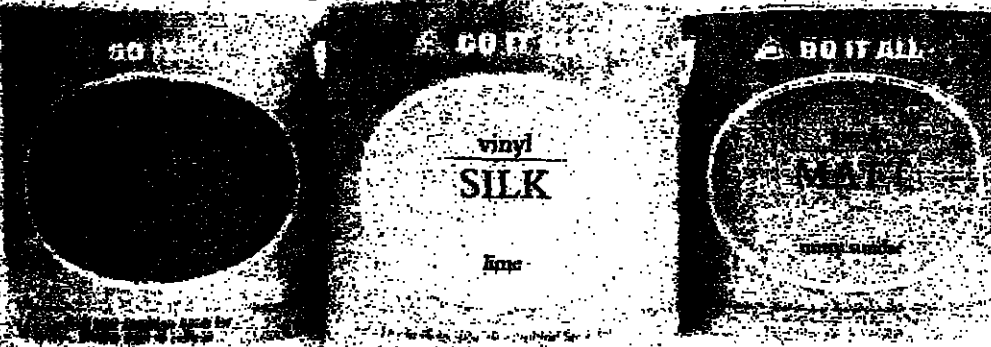
voices, he said. Detective Sergeant Paul Dooley, giving evidence, said that he had interviewed Burton for a total of almost five hours at Stockport police station.

When asked to describe to the court how he had found the defendant, Sgt Dooley said: "He was entirely cold, in control of himself and very focused on what he was doing."

In the first interview, Burton stated to the officers questioning him that the situation was "unlawful" because he did not have a solicitor. In the subsequent interviews relayed to the court today, he answered every question with "I refer you to my opening statement," the court was told.

Mr Dooley said that the expression was repeated by the defendant throughout the time he tried to interview him. The trial continues.

# BRILLIANT BARGAINS



**25% OFF**  
Do It All  
coloured emulsion, 2.5L  
including  
NEW season's colours  
Was £10.49  
Now £7.79



**15% OFF**  
Do It All Satin Sheen Gloss,  
all colours, 750ml  
Was £6.49  
Now £5.49



**15% OFF**  
Dulux Once  
Pure Brilliant White Gloss, 2.5L  
Was £13.99  
Now £11.99



**£2 OFF**  
Dulux Pure Brilliant White  
emulsion, 5L  
Was £11.99  
Now £9.99



**15% OFF**  
Dulux Satinwood  
Pure Brilliant White, 2.5L  
Was £15.99  
Now £13.59

**DO IT ALL**  
Love where you live

DO IT ALL HELPLINE FREE HELP AND ADVICE 7 DAYS A WEEK 0800 436 436  
OFFERS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

Issue 3 out now only 99p!

# Jargon-buster!

Pick up the new issue of **Computeractive**, for 101 ways to get more from your computer, including how to find long lost relatives using the Internet, the best bargain PCs around and 12 pages of useful workshops packed with hints and tips. All written simply and clearly, with Jargon Buster sections throughout. Get more from your PC, get your copy today!

**active**  
**MONEY**

Not what you'd expect from a computer magazine!

ROW THE TIMES  
EVANS  
DON  
R  
SS  
2  
40 40 40

هكنا من الفصل



# PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

## FREE PRINTER & SCANNER WITH 233MHz PC



**ACER**

233MHz Intel Pentium<sup>®</sup> Processor with MMX<sup>™</sup> Technology. 16Mb SDRAM. 2.1Gb Hard Disk. 512k Cache Memory. 24 x Multimedia. 2Mb Graphics. 33.6K Data/Fax modem. Includes Works, FIFA 97 and other top software titles. MODEL: Acer P233MMX. **[PLUS FREE]** Canon BJC 4300 Scan colour inkjet printer and scanner. Usual Price £199.

**ONLY £999** INC VAT

9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

### FREE SCANNER WITH PC & PRINTER PACKAGE

**PACKARD BELL**  
200MHz Intel Pentium<sup>®</sup> Processor with MMX<sup>™</sup> Technology. 32Mb EDO RAM. 3.2Gb Hard Disk. 256k Cache Memory. 24 x Multimedia with Subwoofer. 2Mb PCI Graphics. 56k Modem with Speakerphone. **FREE** over £1000 worth of software. MODEL: Pulsar 21. **[PLUS]** Canon BJC 4300 colour inkjet and **FREE** Visioneer PaperPort 3100 colour flatbed scanner.

**ONLY £1149** INC VAT

9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

**FREE COLOUR FLATBED SCANNER**

### NEW SOFTWARE OUT NOW

**FORMULA 1 '97**  
The race is on! The world's most challenging circuits, drivers and cars combine to create the best Grand Prix racing available on your PC with the official Formula 1 simulation featuring commentary from Murray Walker and Martin Brundle.

**£34.99** INC VAT

**MICROSOFT ENCARTA 98**  
Reference Suite Limited Edition  
Learn, explore and communicate with the complete British reference collection for home learning, comprising 3 full British versions on 5 CD's.

- Encarta 98 Encyclopaedia Deluxe
- Encarta 98 World Atlas
- Encarta 98 World Reference Collection

**£99** INC VAT

**UP TO 12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION**  
WITH NO DEPOSIT ON ALL PRODUCTS OVER £250

Account is financed from a regular full income or with the CCV/12m insurance premium. Check our website for details. 12 months for products over £1990. Typical example: Cash price £1500. No deposit. 11 monthly payments of £150.11. Balance of £34.19 to be paid before or with 12th payment. 6% interest. Total paid £1830.

**29.9%**

# PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464

■ ABERDEEN	■ EAST KILBRIDE	■ MANCHESTER	■ PRESTON	■ SPRINGFIELD
■ BIRMINGHAM	■ EDINBURGH	■ MERRY HILL-ODDLEY	■ READING	■ STOCKPORT
■ BUNYON & OFF MS	■ GATESHEAD	■ NORTH SHIELDS	■ SHEFFIELD	■ STURVE
■ BRISTOL	■ GLASGOW	■ NORTHAMPTON	■ SLOUGH	■ SWANSEA
■ CARDIFF	■ HULL	■ NORWICH	■ SOUTHAMPTON	■ SWINDON
■ CHESTER	■ IPSWICH	■ NOTTINGHAM	■ TOTTENHAM	
■ CHESHAM	■ LEEDS	■ OLDHAM	■ PETERBOROUGH	
■ COLCHESTER	■ LEICESTER	■ PLYMOUTH	■ PORTSMOUTH	
■ COVENTRY	■ LINCOLN	■ PORTSMOUTH	■ RIPLEY	
■ DERBY	■ LIVERPOOL			
■ DONCASTER				

**LONDON AREA**

- GUILDFORD
- LAKESIDE
- STRATFORD CORNER
- BRENTFORD
- CROYDON
- ENFIELD

# Schools urged to tackle young citizens' apathy

**Teachers are told not to be afraid of raising controversial political issues in class, writes John O'Leary**

SCHOOLS should be required to give new lessons in citizenship to combat young people's "apathy, ignorance and cynicism" about public life, government advisers said yesterday.

A group chaired by Professor Bernard Crick, of Birkbeck College, London University, recommended that at least an hour a week should be devoted to a programme covering social and moral responsibilities, community involvement and political education. Schools would devise their own syllabuses but inspectors would ensure that the subject was being taught adequately.

An interim report by the group, which has Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, as its patron, acknowledged that the political aspects of the programme were certain to be controversial. But teachers were used to tackling delicate

issues in such subjects as health education, history and English.

The report said: "Parents and the public generally may be worried about the possibility of bias and indoctrination in teaching about citizenship. We must recognise that teaching about citizenship necessarily involves discussing controversial issues. After all, open and informed debate is vital for a healthy democracy."

Patrick Tobin, who chairs the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, has voiced fears that a future government could use the programme to force teachers to spread its own ideology.

Professor Crick promised guidance on the discussion of controversial issues in a final report in July and proposed a monitoring group to oversee the content of lessons.

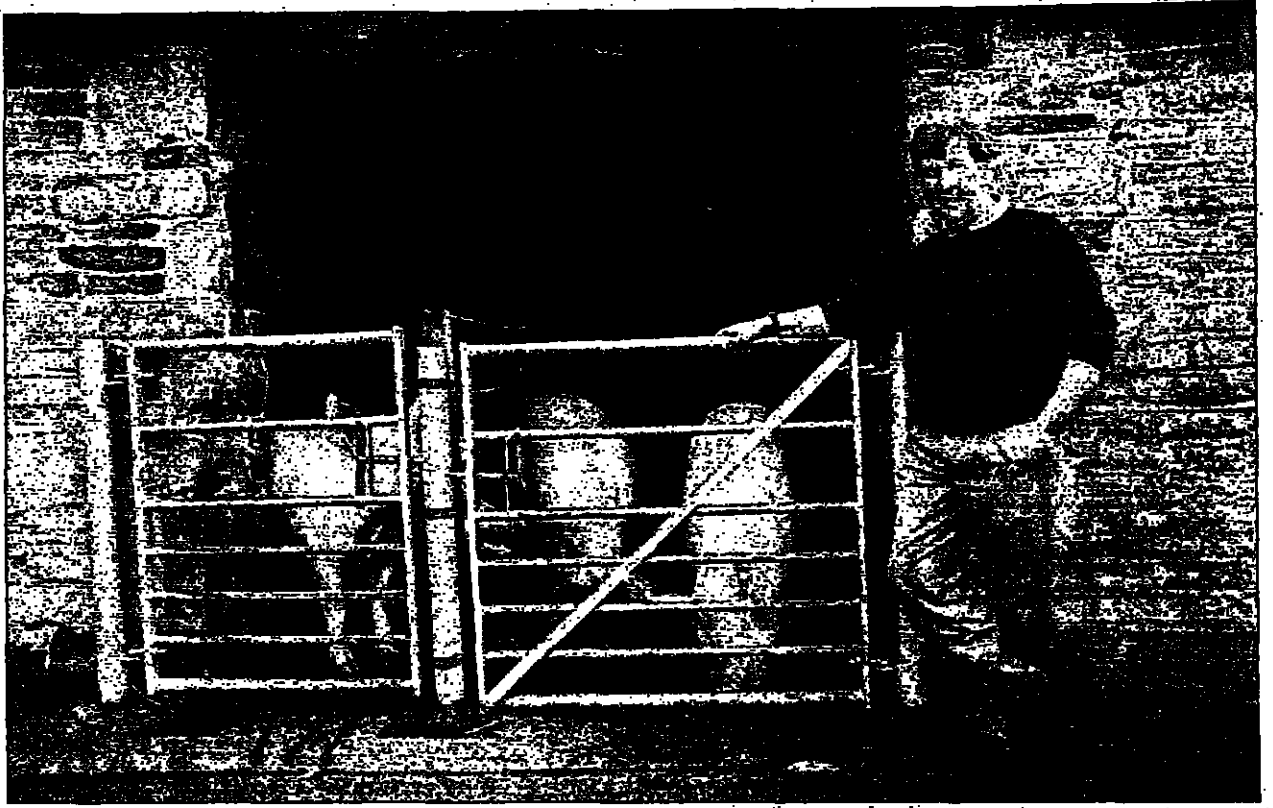
David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, who has promoted the place of civics in schools, was quick to head off any further criticism. Welcoming Professor Crick's report, he emphasised that its recommendations would leave the detail of citizenship education to individual schools.

Mr Blunkett added: "The Government has always made it clear that any recommenda-

tions will respect the existing place of religious education in the curriculum, and in no way supersede or replaces this."

The working group, which included Lord Baker of Dorking, the former Conservative Education Secretary, and Sir Stephen Timmins, believe responsible behaviour in and beyond the classroom go together. Pupils should learn about and become involved in the life and concerns of their communities, including doing voluntary work. The programme would also cover economic and social questions, as well as teaching young people to be "effective in public life".

Sir William Stubbs, chairman of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, said that the group's proposals would be a "key input" to the forthcoming review of the national curriculum.



Richard Cousins, the farm manager, and some of the animals that will soon be living in a porkers' palace

## Pigs' paradise comes with in-sty showers

PIGS on a children's farm will soon be luxuriating in the last word in sties, thanks to a £200,000 lottery grant.

The 24 animals at the Whirlow Hall Farm Trust, in Sheffield, are to be accommodated in six family pens featuring underfloor heating and ventilation. They will have special shower units they can operate with their snouts. Lighting will be computer controlled and special plastic curtains will open and close automatically to regulate the air flow and ventilation. They will have a box of toys and not for them a bucket of swill, rather flavoured food and piggy treats.

Ian Longden, the farm warden, said the idea was to provide the last word in animal welfare. "It might seem over the top but the public are questioning more and more the welfare of animals like pigs that are reared for food purposes. We want to try and show the public how pigs can be kept in the optimum conditions."

Not everyone is as enthusiastic. Francis Butler, a Liberal Democrat councillor, described the plans as grotesque. "These pigs will be living in better conditions than some people in Sheffield."

The farm was opened by the city council 19 years ago and about 20,000 children visit it each year. At least they get to go home at the end of the day. The pigs are destined for the slaughterhouse.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Last plea for Parliament programme

Senior BBC Parliamentary journalists have appealed to their governors to stop the radio report Yesterday in Parliament being confined to long wave. Briefing documents argue that between one third and a half of the present 1.3 million listeners will be lost if it is removed from the FM band and Today programme. The decision of the governors is expected to be announced today.

## Devon drops music grant

BY DALVA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING regional orchestra is to lose its £91,000 county council grant next year, forcing it to cancel concerts and community projects and endangering its Arts Council grant.

Anthony Woodcock, managing director of the Bournemouth Orchestras, said that they were devastated by Devon County Council's decision, which had huge implications for arts funding in the region. "Professional music within the county is being destroyed," he said. "This is the most

parochial decision, given we are the orchestra of the South and West and have a regional touring remit. Considering we have provided the highest-quality music service for more than 30 years, this is extraordinary."

Mr Woodcock said that the Arts Council could withdraw the £3.18 million lottery grant awarded last year because it was dependent on partnership funding from sources such as local authorities. "This is throwing us into crisis," Bournemouth Orchestras would not be able to continue their community work, which involved thousands of young people in schools, community centres and special needs groups.

Devon's decision threatens Exeter University's application for £3 million from the National Lottery to refurbish its Great Hall. The university is using the Bournemouth Orchestras' residency as a main feature of its application but without its own funding Bournemouth cannot afford to appear in Exeter.

### Price of success

The crispmaker Smiths is suing for damages after too many people won prizes in a scratchcard promotion. The firm is suing insurers that it says failed to cover the £478,208 cost of customers' success.

### Hard to swallow

Doctors have cast doubt on a Japanese way to quit smoking by eating silver. Regular consumption may cut the craving but it turns the skin grey and the finger nails blue, reports The Lancet.

### Pilot charged

Robert Hobson, 56, from Howgate, Lothian, pilot of a helicopter that crashed killing a nine-year-old boy on a Noel Edmonds pleasure flight, was charged yesterday with negligence and recklessness.

### Palaces peer

The Earl of Airlie, former Lord Chamberlain of the Queen's household, is to chair a new body to run Britain's historic royal palaces, including the Tower of London and Hampton Court.

### Special offer

A rare mushroom, Morchella elata, has been found growing in the car park flowerbeds of a Waitrose store at Salisbury, Wiltshire. A more common member of the family is on sale in the store at £10.86 a lb.

STAY IN TOUCH • STAY IN POCKET

# NO BILLS

Featured Model Text Express £29.99 including Free Home Delivery & Latency Service

**NO MONTHLY BILLS EVER**

**NO CONTRACT**

**NO CONNECTION CHARGES**

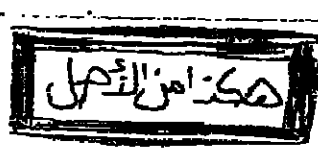
**JUST BUY THE PAGER**

**MINICall PAGERS**

**£39.99**

From Argos, Dixons, The Link, Selected Currys Superstores, Sainsbury, John Lewis Partnership, Staples, Tandy, Timpco and other reputable authorized dealers.

For further information FreeCall **0500 505 505**





هكذا من العمل

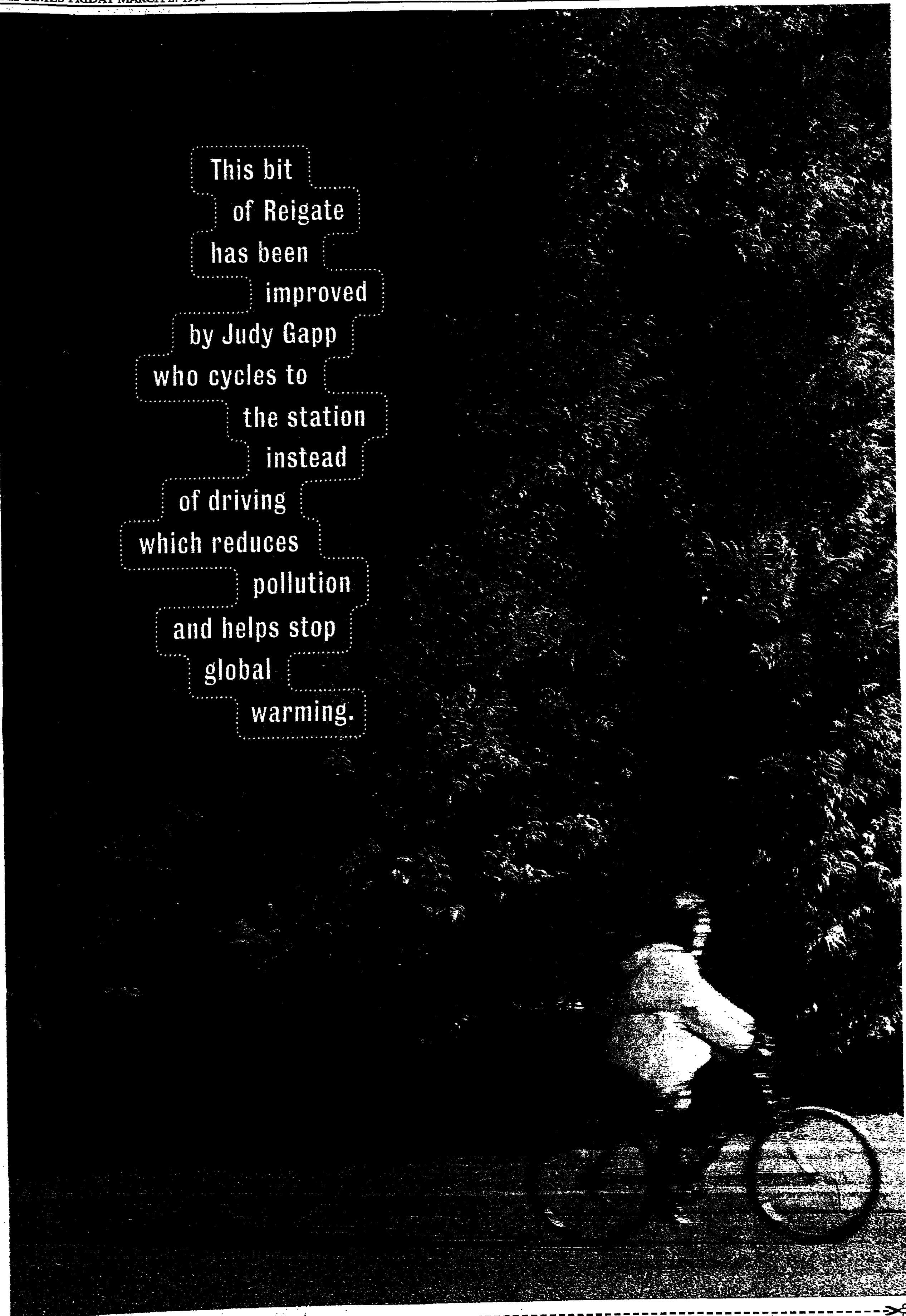
l to tackl  
s' apathy



tops must

NO  
BILLY

This bit  
of Reigate  
has been  
improved  
by Judy Gapp  
who cycles to  
the station  
instead  
of driving  
which reduces  
pollution  
and helps stop  
global  
warming.



Cars and vans produce a large amount of the greenhouse gases in the UK. Leaving your car at home when you can will help improve the quality of our air. For more ideas on how to fight global warming send this coupon to: Are you doing your bit? PO Box 200, Stratford-on-Avon CV37 9BR or call 0345 86 86 86.



Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Ref: TMS002

are you doing **your bit?**



# Ministers believe the disabled want jobs not benefits

By ALEXANDRA FREAN  
SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
CORRESPONDENT

THE Green Paper's commitment to create a Disability Rights Commission and to implement the remaining provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act will be welcomed by campaign groups as a step towards enhancing the civil rights of disabled people.

While there is some recognition within the groups that benefits reform is needed, there is a more widespread feeling that the best way to get disabled people into work is to aggressively promote their rights and tackle employer discrimination. Many believe that compulsory access for disabled people to public transport and the enforcement of workforce quotas of people with disabilities would achieve more at a stroke than any amount of fiddling with benefit rules.

The Government believes that up to one million disabled people would like to find work if given appropriate assistance. One of its main efforts to assist them will come through the plans for incapacity benefit, which is paid to people unable to work because of illness or disability.

This benefit has grown from a relatively small part of the benefit system 30 years ago to a cost of £7.8 billion, almost one tenth of the social security budget. Today 1.75 million people receive it, three times more than in 1979.

At present, people receiving incapacity benefit, which is worth between £47.10 and £62.45 a week, are subjected to an "all work test" after six months to see if they are still incapable of work. The Government's view is that the current rules write off as unfit for work people who may, with some assistance, be able to return to work, possibly in a new occupation.

The Green Paper suggests replacing the "all work test" with a new system to assess the scale of people's "employability". Instead of having to prove that they cannot work,

Times reporters outline the main elements of the Government's long-awaited Green Paper on breaking the dependency culture and reforming the welfare state

## DISABILITY

new claimants would have to make clear what kind of work, if any, they were capable of doing. They would then be helped to return to full- or part-time work. The "all work test" would remain for existing claimants.

The Green Paper also contains proposals to clamp down on fraudulent disability claims and on benefits paid for life. A recent Department of Social Security report suggested that in two thirds of disability living allowance and attendance allowance cases, there was insufficient evidence to support the benefit claim. As a result, the Govern-

ment is to undertake a review of the two benefits, which help people to meet the extra costs caused by disability. It will set up a forum with organisations representing disabled people to discuss how the benefits could be reformed.

The Green Paper accepts that the Benefits Integrity Project, set up by the Government to detect people who claim disability benefit fraudulently or incorrectly, is not working well but says it will be retained.

The Government has already earmarked £195 million for projects to make it easier for disabled people to join the workforce. This will partly be achieved through the creation of a Disabled Person's Tax Credit, which will replace the Disability Working Allowance (DWA) and be paid through the wage packet from October.

The DWA was widely regarded as unworkable. An estimated one million unemployed people with disabilities want to work, but only 11,000 receive DWA.

Another vital part of the disability package is a new effort to take the financial risk out of taking a job. At present, claimants of long-term incapacity benefits who find they cannot cope with a new job after eight weeks are not able simply to go back onto their old benefits. Instead, they receive the jobseeker's allowance and have to reapply for their former incapacity benefits. The limit will be extended from October, so that anyone who loses a job within one year of taking it will return to benefit at whatever rate he or she previously received.

The 16-hour restriction on unpaid voluntary work by people receiving disability benefits will be removed. The Government is also to provide personal advisers, offering individual help to disabled people who want to find a job.

## THE OBJECTIVES

The Green Paper sets out eight key principles guiding welfare reform:

- The new welfare state should help and encourage people of working age to work if they can.
- The public and private sectors should work in partnership to ensure that, wherever possible, people are insured against foreseeable risks, and make provision for their retirement.
- The new welfare state should provide public services of high quality to the whole community, as well as cash benefits.
- The disabled should get the support they need to lead a fulfilling life with dignity.
- The system should support families and children as well as tackling child poverty.
- There should be specific action to tackle social exclusion and help those in poverty.
- The system should encourage openness and honesty and the gateways to benefit should be clear and enforceable.
- The system should be flexible, efficient and easy for people to use.



Polly Steele and her children, Toby and Josie. She contributes £75 a month to her pension, but the experts say the figure should be £288

By DAVID CHARTER  
AND CAROLINE MERRELL

## Saving for old age has to start now

THE Green Paper, while praising the public-private partnership that has helped people to retire in comfort, highlights various weaknesses in the system, including the failure of many to "save enough, or to save at all" for a retirement that may be much longer than they expect.

This inadequate level of saving is illustrated by two workers. One, in her thirties, is saving less than a third of the amount necessary to provide a decent pension. The other, in his twenties, is putting nothing aside.

Polly Steele, 31 and married with two children, is head of production at a television production company. An

Oxford graduate, she has worked her way up from secretary to PA to researcher to director and producer. She lives in Oxfordshire and works from home for part of the week.

She first joined a private pension scheme at the age of 28 while on a short-term contract with BBC that paid the equivalent of £40,000. Her next job was an 18-month part-time contract worth £50,000 with ITV before she joined her present com-

pany on a rolling year's contract worth £60,000 a year.

She is investing £75 a month in the private pension scheme and her husband is putting in the same amount. According to Legal & General she should be contributing £288 a month to her pension, if she wants to maintain her lifestyle.

"I have no idea about possible alternative pension arrangements," she said. "Someone would have to

sit down and explain it all to me."

Charles Richards, a 25-year-old trainee chartered surveyor, has yet to join the company pension scheme at FPD Savills because the cost of living in London takes up all his £15,000 salary. Mr Richards, a Cambridge graduate, plans to join the company scheme in June when he is in line for a salary rise to about £19,000.

If his career goes to plan he could be earning the equivalent of £60,000 by the age of 50. "I would like to think I would have built up a sufficient nest egg, say £50,000, so my pension would just be there by the time I want to retire," he said.

According to Legal & General, his contributions should be about £183 a month.

## Working a way out of state dependence

By MARK HENDERSON

THE Green Paper sets out work as the cornerstone of welfare reform, with the welfare state offering security to those who cannot take a job. It builds on the New Deal programmes for the young and long-term unemployed, lone parents and the disabled already announced and measures set out in the Budget aimed at making work pay.

The new welfare state should help and encourage people of working age to work where they are capable of doing so. Work offers the best escape route from poverty, a platform on which to save, and a sense of purpose. "Work is the best form of welfare," Mr Field said. "To those of working age we offer greater help to get into work, and a modern system to provide help for those in genuine need who can't work."

## EMPLOYMENT

offer subsidised jobs with private employers, advice on employment opportunities, childcare and in-work benefits and access to education and training. The scheme for the young unemployed also includes withdrawal of full benefit if those eligible choose not to take a job, a training place, voluntary work or work with an environmental task force.

There will also be a fifth New Deal, for the partners of the long-term unemployed, aimed at tackling "work-pot" households where no-one in a family works.

The working families tax credit, announced in the Budget to replace family credit from October 1999, will boost incomes for low-paid workers and ease the poverty trap which leaves the unemployed facing a sharp loss of benefit if they return to work. A childcare allowance will operate within the tax credit, helping with the often crippling costs for working mothers.

# UNBEATABLE

**HURRY LAST WEEKEND**

**FREE** THE UK'S BEST SELLING COLOUR PRINTER

**FREE** THE UK'S BEST SELLING COLOUR SCANNER

**FREE** 8450 SOFTWARE

**FREE** Quicken

**FREE** 8450 SOFTWARE

**ALL THIS FOR ONE FANTASTIC PRICE**

**ONLY £999**

**FREE WORTH £149**

**FREE WORTH £450**

**FREE WORTH £299**

**FREE WORTH £450**

**FREE WORTH £149**

**FREE WORTH £450**

**60 STORES NATIONWIDE INCLUDING 44 WITHIN OFFICE WORLD. FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE, OR TO ORDER CALL 0990 22 55 99**

**Byte**  
The Computer Superstore

**BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CHAIN OF PC SPECIALISTS**

## Pensioners may be forced to pay for top-up

By JILL SHERMAN  
CHIEF POLITICAL  
CORRESPONDENT

THE Government yesterday paved the way for the introduction of a compulsory second pension to ensure that people make adequate provision for their old age.

The Green Paper confirms that, in the short term, ministers will press ahead with a voluntary stakeholder pension. The Government hopes to encourage people to top up their state pension with a private pension by guaranteeing lower charges and more flexibility.

But the paper suggests that, in the longer term, the Government would require people to take out a second, private pension and pay more than they do under the national insurance contributions.

They would start contributing when they first entered work to ensure that they built up a sizeable pension by the time they retired. The state pension would winder on the vine, but poorer pensioners who had failed to make provision would be expected to get a minimum guaranteed pension.

Successive governments have been alarmed by the relentless rise in the pensions bill, which accounts for nearly a third of the £96 billion social security bill. More than 10.4 million people receive the state retirement pension, at an annual cost of £31.8 billion. But ministers have accepted that many pensioners find it hard to live on the weekly state pension of £62.45, which is uprated only by inflation each year.

## RETIREMENT

The incomes of the poorest 20 per cent of pensioners have risen by only 30 per cent since 1979, compared with an increase of 70 per cent for the richest 20 per cent.

The Green Paper says the Government is pledged to retain the basic state retirement pension as the foundation of pension provision. But it admits that this is not enough.

Under the stakeholder scheme to be introduced later this year, low-paid workers will be given a better chance to save.

The new schemes could be provided by mutual organisations, including trade unions. The Government would ensure lower charges and set minimum standards. The new Financial Services Authority would have the power to establish and enforce high standards.

## Number's up for millions of benefit cheats

By NICHOLAS WATTS  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of people who use false national insurance numbers to claim benefit will be the chief targets of an onslaught on the £4 billion lost each year in fraud.

Mr Field's programme builds on a series of initiatives in recent years. Last year the Government introduced a Personal Accounts Security Project, which introduced robust checks on people claiming new numbers.

For example, benefits staff were instructed not to accept photocopies of birth certificates. In 1995, the Tory Government introduced a check on 133,000 duplicate accounts, removing 61,000 numbers from the system.

Other anti-fraud measures by Mr Field include: New powers to compel to stop housing benefit being paid to landlords who have committed fraud. A new Housing Benefit Matching Service, which matches information from different local authorities, will be introduced by the end of the year. The £12 million annual housing benefit bill has the highest level of fraud, at £1 billion.

## FRAUD

Recent legislation has allowed the DSS to fine fraudsters. Until recently, only courts were allowed to levy fines.

New powers to set targets for local authorities. Authorities will be penalised if they fail to take sufficient action.

One of the frauds that benefit staff will be tackling is the duplication of numbers. Fraudsters register slightly different spellings of a name to acquire several numbers. They also

## Strong public pressure pays off

By ALEXANDRA FREAN

## CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

THE Government has bowed to strong political and public pressure in confirming a "root and branch" review of the controversial Child Support Agency, with proposals for change published this year.

The Government spends £200 million a year to run the CSA, but secures only £500 million maintenance as a result. In addition income-related benefits to lone parents are spiralling - from £1 billion in 1978/79 to £8 billion in 1996/97.

The Green Paper recognises that many parents succeed in frustrating the child support scheme: almost a third of fathers who should pay through the collection service are paying nothing. To make matters worse, the complex and bureaucratic system faces opposition from both the person paying and, all too often, the parent providing the bulk of care. At present more than two thirds of lone mothers who claim income support are seeking to avoid applying for child support maintenance from the fathers of their children.

The paper promises to make the CSA administratively more simple and fairer and to get rid of a situation in which often it is the parents who keep in closest touch

critica  
ESTATE  
istian



# Critical MPs press Field for details

By Polly Newton and James Landale

THE Green Paper on welfare reform was condemned as "vacuous" yesterday by the Shadow Social Security Secretary, Iain Duncan Smith.

Speaking in the Commons after the proposals had been presented by Frank Field, Minister for Welfare Reform, Mr Duncan Smith said: "All we see in this paper is a series of very general statements."

In particular, he said, there were no specific proposals for tackling housing benefit fraud, estimated by the Commons Public Accounts Committee to have reached more than £900 million a year.

Mr Duncan Smith said that there had obviously been a battle behind the scenes between Mr Field and the

## THE DEBATE

Chancellor of the Exchequer. "From its vacuousness and avoidance of any details, the reality is that the Chancellor won."

Mr Duncan Smith said the Conservatives believed that welfare reform should have three effects: strengthening the institution of the family, breaking the "dependence culture" by encouraging personal responsibility, and promoting the alternative provision of welfare so that state funds could go to those most in need.

He supported the Government's proposed reform of the Child Support Agency, but complained that no details had been given. Mr Field acknowledged that there were "no concrete proposals" for the CSA, but said that showed the matter was genuinely open to consultation. "We are anxious that the pace of reform, the extent of negotiation, should be such that we get reform much more right than we did last time. It is easy



Leaving the past behind: the Government hopes to banish dole-queue dependence with a revitalised welfare system that encourages people to work when they are able to

for us to be bullish... but if we fail, we screw up people's lives."

He said the Green Paper underlined the importance of the family as the "most secure building block in building a secure future". And, he said, it would give the Benefits Agency the power to tackle housing benefit fraud.

David Davis (C, Haltemprice and Howden), chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, said that almost £5 billion was lost to fraud

from the housing benefit budget. He urged Mr Field not just to manage the loss but "to eradicate the opportunity for fraud in the whole system".

David Rensdel, the Liberal Democrats' social security spokesman, said the Green Paper would come as a "great disappointment" to many people. "There isn't much that's new or radical and there are very few specific proposals in the statement."

Sir Ray Whitney (C, Wycombe) said Mr Field's statement that he wished to see people on incapacity benefit "helped back to work" was "rather menacing". The minister said those currently claiming incapacity benefit, which costs £8 billion a year, were protected, but the system was not working properly. In future, potential claimants should take an "employability test".

Diane Abbott (Lab, Hackney North and Stoke Newington) voiced concern about the personal finance industry. She said that if people were to be forced to make private provision for their old age, the Government should look at the workings of the private pension industry "with its history of over-blown commissions and fraudulent and ramshackle practices". Mr Field said: "That is one of our targets."

Simon Burns (C, Chelmsford West) told Mr Field that the Government had always said it intended to

reduce the share of national income that went on welfare. "Yet every concrete proposal that you made in your statement will increase the social security budget."

Mr Field replied: "Our position is to try to reduce expenditure on economic and social failure and move it on to success."

Leading article, page 25  
Business reaction, page 29  
Anatole Kaletsky, page 33

Baroness Castle of Blackburn argues that pensioners should be allowed to choose between improved state insurance and strengthened Serps on the one hand and private or company pensions on the other. She accused the Government of "dragging its feet" on pensions. "It's a scandal that, once again, action on pensions has

## Private schemes 'are too costly'

By Alexandra Flean

BARBARA CASTLE, a former Secretary of State for Social Services and a campaigner for pensioners' rights, said she was totally opposed to compulsory private pensions.

"Private insurance is so costly. For every £1 spend, £4 goes in charges. Wealthy people may be able to afford to ride the ups and downs of the stock market, but poorer people won't want to do that," she said.

Baroness Castle of Blackburn argues that pensioners should be allowed to choose between improved state insurance and strengthened Serps on the one hand and private or company pensions on the other. She accused the Government of "dragging its feet" on pensions. "It's a scandal that, once again, action on pensions has

## REACTION

been postponed. I have a suspicious mind and I think they want to drag on their consultation over the summer so that it will be too late to get any action before next year."

Lord Morris of Manchester, who as the MP Alf Morris was the first Minister for the Disabled, said he was disappointed that the Government had not ruled out taxing some disability and mobility allowances.

"One fear is that young, disabled people who are in work will have to go onto welfare if their mobility allowance is taxed because they will not be able to afford to get to work."

Lord Morris said that the Government appeared to be obsessed with reforming the benefits system at the expense of other solutions. "Much more could be done to get disabled people into work just by improving public transport for disabled people and by tackling the blatant discrimination by employers."

# Christian socialist offering lacks coherent intellectual core

## RIDDELL ON POLITICS

TONY BLAIR promised a radical reform of the welfare state. Yesterday, Frank Field unveiled a 10,000-mile road test in the language of Christian socialism. The welfare Green Paper is undoubtedly important. Many of the proposals — on disability and incapacity benefit, on fighting housing benefit fraud and on rejigging the Child Support Agency — are both desirable and overdue. They fully justify the review.

Yet, overall, there is a sense of disappointment. The Green Paper lacks a coherent intellectual core. It begins with criticisms of the system —

inequality and social exclusion are worsening; people face a series of barriers to paid work and fraud is taking money out. Mr Field offers a compelling moral vision of a new welfare contract, resting on responsibilities and rights — "work for those who can, security for those who cannot". As anyone who has talked to him knows, he has a keen, essentially religious, sense of the balance between personal responsibility, mutual help and state support.

The Green Paper discusses three alternative visions. It identifies first a future based on the belief that the welfare

state is unaffordable; that the middle class should provide for themselves with little or no state cash or services; and that unemployment, disability benefits and pensions should be fully privatised. Secondly, there are those who regard any changes to the Beveridge system as a betrayal, and who believe that poverty is relieved exclusively by cash hand-outs. By contrast to these oversimplified caricatures, which few really advocate, the Green Paper offers suitable buzz words — "empowerment not

dependency" reinforced by the belief that work is the best route out of poverty for those who can work. Splendid, but...? The subsequent eight principles could easily have been in any Tory paper. The 32 "success measures" are a mixed bag of vague intentions and pious aspirations.

Admittedly, there are hints of greater radicalism. The chapter on work implies a further move towards welfare — "it is the Government's responsibility to promote work opportunities and to help

people take advantage of them. It is the responsibility of those who can take them up to do so". Similarly, "many submissions to the pensions review have argued that the compulsory second tier, which already covers three quarters of the workforce, should be extended to groups not covered and that the minimum second-tier contributions should be raised from the current national insurance rebate levels".

Yet there is none of the clarity that distinguished Mr Field's contributions in opposition, or that marks Gordon Brown's "New Deal" and

Budget measures to help make work pay. The Government offers no guidance about how far the contributory/insurance principle (what is coyly described as private-public partnerships) can be extended beyond the current provision for pensions, family bereavement, and industrial injuries. Yet this question is central to any reshaping of the welfare state.

Mr Field is right that a Big Bang approach is neither possible nor desirable at present: unlike Beveridge, we are not talking about substantially extending the welfare state. But there is a need for

more explicit road signs towards the step-by-step reform programme set out yesterday. Otherwise, there is a risk that the results will not match the aspirations, and the system will be improved, not reformed. The overhaul of incapacity benefit may produce savings over time. But by the time of the next election Mr Blair will be hard-pressed to show much evidence of fulfilling his manifesto pledge of reducing the share of national income spent on welfare in order to increase it on education.

PETER RIDDELL

Number for milk benefits

MENU

1 2 ABC 3 DEF

4 GHI 5 JKL 6 MNO

Call the best place to get on the best network.

0 8 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 2

the word on the street is

vodafone

Offer subject to status, availability and the signing of a new 12 month airtime agreement with Vodafone 20 with local call option or Vodafone 60 with local call option tariffs. Only the free low rental applies 3 months from date of connection. Offer valid until 30/4/98, only at Vodafone Retail Shops. Full terms and conditions available on request.

FREE WITH COMPUTER SHOPPER

WORLD EXCLUSIVE! Fully working 21-day version

ENCARTA 98 ENCYCLOPEDIA DELUXE

WORLD EXCLUSIVE! Full product 30-day version

ENCARTA WORLD ATLAS 98 EDITION

FREE WITH MAY ISSUE ON SALE NOW

FREE WITH JUNE ISSUE ON SALE 30th APRIL

World exclusives from Computer Shopper and Microsoft with fully-working versions of these two top-selling CD-Roms.

Microsoft Encarta 98 Encyclopedia Deluxe British Edition (Fully working 21-day version).

Microsoft Encarta World Atlas 98 Edition (Full product 30-day version).

PLUS each issue includes a discount voucher for £10 OFF of the full Microsoft products.

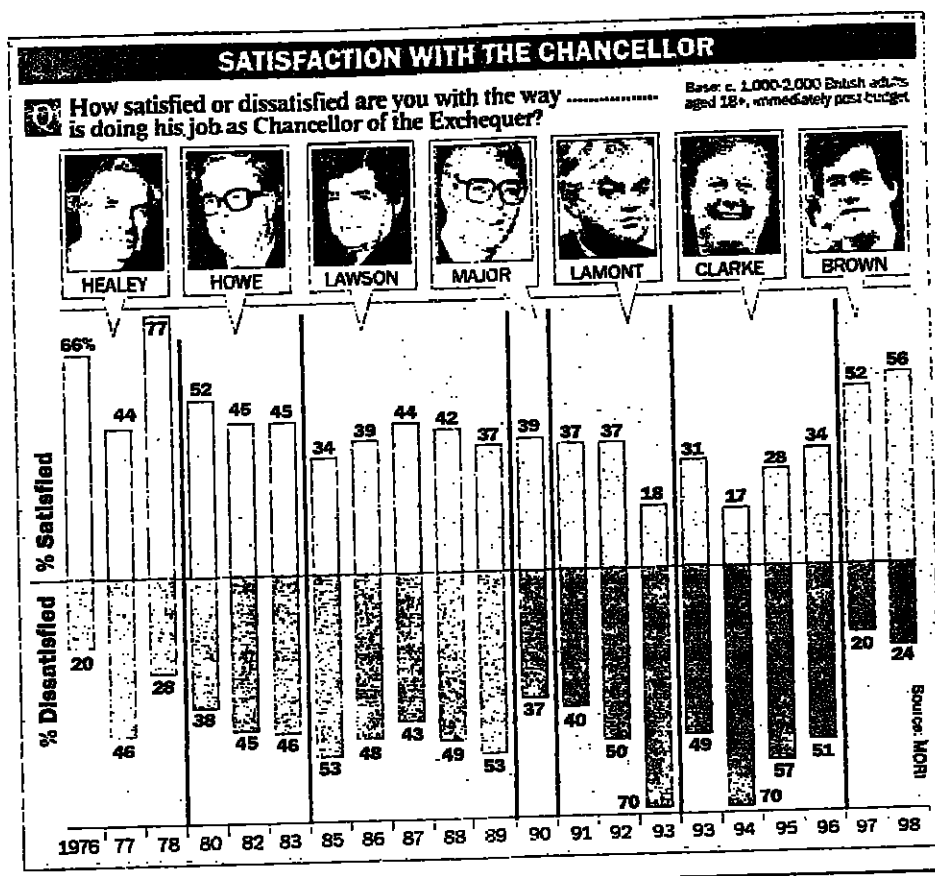
BUY BETTER BY FAR WITH COMPUTER SHOPPER.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST SPECIAL OFFER ON COMPUTER SOFTWARE



12 HOME NEWS

# Brown the most popular Chancellor for 20 years



A Times/MORI poll shows that the Budget especially impressed the middle class, writes Peter Riddell

GORDON BROWN has the highest approval ratings for any Chancellor of the Exchequer for 20 years, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*.

He is more highly rated than Tony Blair among the middle class, the middle-aged and those with above-average incomes. He scores less well among younger people and the less well-off.

The poll, undertaken last weekend, a few days after the Budget, shows that 56 per cent are satisfied with the way Mr Brown is doing his job, with 24 per cent dissatisfied. The balance of plus 32 points is far better than was achieved by any of the Tory Chancellors and was last exceeded by the 49 points for Lord Healey after his April 1978 Budget.

Fifty-four per cent of the public thinks that, in the long term, the Government's policies will improve the state of the economy, with 29 per cent disagreeing. That is a slightly lower balance than last summer, immediately after Labour's election victory, but much higher than during the Tory years in office.

The poll shows that the Budget's main "welfare to work" theme has made a big impact on affected groups. The unemployed believe that the Budget proposals will be good for them personally by a net balance of plus 30 points.

Younger people are positive about the impact of the Budget on them personally: plus 5 points for 18 to 24-year-olds and plus 7 points for 25 to 34-year-olds, against minus six

## MPs study press office role

A PARLIAMENTARY inquiry is to be held into fears that government press officers are being "politicised", Valerie Elliott writes.

MPs are concerned that the press officers' role in the "active promotion" of government policy could compromise their impartiality as civil servants. They intend to examine the "fine line" between promoting government good news stories and the routine presentation of information to the public at taxpayers' expense.

The inquiry by the Commons public administration committee is to begin after Easter when MPs will summon Sir Richard Wilson, the Cabinet Secretary, Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's press secretary, Sir Bernard Ingham, press secretary at Downing Street during the Thatcher years, Mike Grannatt, head of the Government Information and Communications Services, and Jonathan Baume, general secretary of the Association of First Division civil servants. MPs will also examine the future viability of the information service and the general effectiveness of the co-ordination of policy in Whitehall.

Rhodri Morgan, committee chairman, said last night: "We want to know whether there is a grey area here."

Toast the new Power Macintosh G3 at your local Apple Reseller

AppleCentres	Address	Phone
Scovys Computer Systems	Aberdeen	01224 873737
F H Brown Plc	Barnsley	01226 771110
Scovys Computer Systems	Bellshill	01698 846001
ICM Computer Solutions Plc	Birstall	0800 614581
F H Brown Plc	Blackpool	01253 894800
Western Computer Ltd	Bristol	0117 922 5661
F H Brown Plc	Burnley	01282 833357
AppleCentre Cambridge	Cambridge	01223 247111
ME Electronics	Cambridge	01223 450216
ICM Computer Solutions Plc	Dartford	0800 614581
Scovys Computer Systems	Edinburgh	0131 557 5995
Carpe Diem Solutions Ltd	Glasgow	0141 333 9901
Scovys Computer Systems	Glasgow	0141 339 9627
Computercare	Hampton Hill, Middlesex	0181 943 3922
Mela Computers Ltd	High Wycombe	01494 443388
Computercare	Leeds	0113 242 0601
Albion Computers Plc	London, W1N	0171 323 0220
MR Systems	London, N7	0171 700 2121
Colyer Graphics Ltd	London, ECLR	0171 883 0888
Trans Plc	London, SW1V	0171 544 1222
AppleCentre Chromasonic	London, NW4	0181 203 8989
Tasha Computers	London, W14	0171 602 9444
London Graphic Systems	London, W10	0181 964 9772
F H Brown Plc	Manchester	0161 661 1099
ICM Computer Solutions Plc	Manchester	0800 614581
ABC Microcore Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	0191 268 1162
Aurora UniComp Limited	Newtonabbey, Northern Ireland	01232 848 000
KRCS Group Plc	Nottingham	0115 950 5352
ME Electronics	Oxford	01865 728700
Holdens Computer Services Ltd	Preston	01772 610100
Thames Valley Systems Plc	Reading	01189 500551
ME Electronics	Reading	01737 773166
Artworker Ltd	Salisbury, Surrey	01424 272127
Trinac	Sheffield	01753 518866
ApplePoint, Thames Valley	Slough	01498 746 333
Blue Chip Systems	Stenage	0800 614581
ICM Computer Solutions Plc	Walsall	01925 444499
AppleCentre Warrington	Warrington	01925 444499

Apple Resellers	Address	Phone
Mac and More Ltd	Berkhamstead	01442 870300
Euromedia	Bexley, Kent	01322 528 000
Hi-Tec Computer Services	Bradford	01274 626379
Network Professional Ltd	Brighton	01273 748083
Apple Tree Graphics	Bromsgrove	01527 570 535
Electronic Publishing Systems	Camberley, Surrey	01276 609 999
First Tempeation Computers Ltd	Canterbury	01227 764455
Datacore Consultants	Chelmsford	01245 261578
Computer Technique Ltd	Chelmsford	01245 257 515
TUSCO Systems	Colchester	01206 765576
Durham Office Systems Ltd	Coniser, County Durham	01207 983 978
Mediaspec	East Kilbride, Glasgow	01355 272 500
PCB Media Ltd	Halifax	01422 330066
Axiom (UK) Ltd	Harpton	0181 941 8898
Computer Sense Limited	Hemel Hempstead	01442 252555
Dacorom Graphics	Hemel Hempstead	01442 240833
Definitive Technologies Ltd	High Wycombe	01494 443711
Principal Corporation	Horsham, West Sussex	01405 258 486
Solutions Inc	Hove	01273 889020
Island Computer Systems Ltd	Isle of Wight	01983 821717
The Rack Group	Leeds	0113 246 9820
Core Solutions Limited	Leighton Buzzard	01525 850355
SRS Systems Ltd	London, NW10	0800 731 6198
Inspire Ltd	London, SW18	0181 874 2229
DB Graphics	London, N5	0171 704 9600
Harlequin Solutions	London, W10	0181 960 9400
PCM Technologies Limited	London, E15	0181 519 4497
Portland PMS Ltd	London, ECLR	0171 608 1518
Micro Anyika Ltd	London, W1	0171 636 2547
Eureka Computer Systems	Maldenhead	01628 828 244
Computer Centre Maidstone	Maidstone	01622 675144
GBM Digital Technologies Ltd	Manchester	0161 273 5562
Computer Capability Ltd	Manchester, Bezer	01392 207620
Orchard Computing Ltd	Milton Keynes	01908 640313
Oxford Macintosh Solutions	Oxford	01865 882504
Absolute Computers	Oxford	01865 744115
Alita Ltd	Oxford	01869 337088
Bidmatin Technologies Ltd	Pinner, Middlesex	0181 868 4400
Creative Graphic Systems	Reading	01734 887766
Computer Integration Company Ltd	Reading	01737 644829
EuroMac	Reading	01708 479898
CS Systems	Sal, Cheshire	0161 976 2199
Sidwell Technology	Southall	01564 757775
The Apple Studio	Stockton on Tees	01642 679000
Adams Computers	Sutton Coldfield	0121 354 9222
Ideas into Print	Swansea	01792 391290
MacExpress	Tarnworth	01827 281 600
Evay Typesetting Limited	Tavistock	01822 619007
Kinesys Ltd	Telford	01952 246 111
AT Computers	Tewkesbury	01684 291112
Quay IT	Tonnes	01803 868 009
The Last Word	Twickenham	0181 831 6865
Twilight Zone Engineering Ltd	Wandorf	01923 801812
The Mac Express	West Wickham, Kent	0181 462 5626
QualForm Computer Prod.	Woodford Halse, Northants	01327 263 950
The Saville Group Ltd	York	01904 782782

National Mail Order Outlets	Address	Phone
Gordon Harwood Computers	Allerton, Nr Derby	01773 836781
Dabs Direct	Bolton	0800 680 000
Computer Warehouse Ltd	Brendford	0181 400 1234
MacLine	Canthabon	0181 401 1111
The Mac Zone	Guildford	0800 393 696
Mac Supplies	London, W9	0181 282 8282
Mygate Limited	London, SE12	0800 018 7559
Camelot	London, NW1	0171 383 2727
Jigsaw Systems Ltd	Nottingham	0115 916 5599
MacWarehouse	Wandorf	0800 181 532

National Retail Partners  
Also available at Harrods and John Lewis department stores nationwide.  
The above does not constitute a full listing of Apple Resellers.

## Anger as Labour boycotts 'shabby' Blackpool

BY ANDREW PIERCE  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR is facing a backbench rebellion over the decision to desert the North of England in favour of southern resorts for Labour Party conferences for the first time since 1927.

An emergency meeting was called yesterday by Labour's North West Group of MPs which challenged the leadership to overturn the decision to abandon Blackpool which officials described as shabby and too far from London.

In a damage-limitation exercise yesterday, the Prime Minister insisted in an interview with Blackpool's *Evening Gazette* that he loved the city and hoped to return after the election. The decision was made on commercial grounds, he said.

However, a briefing note published for Labour MPs yesterday condemned the Winter Gardens conference centre and cited a shortage of suitable hotel beds. There are more than 100,000 in Blackpool which is said to be Europe's oldest seaside resort. It stated: "It is hoped that over the next few years facilities are improved and that the party conference can once again return to Blackpool on a regular basis."

The autumn conference in Blackpool will be the last with Bournemouth next year and Brighton for the following two years.

The subject even surfaced at yesterday's Cabinet meeting and at the meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party. At the North West Group meeting anger boiled over as speakers after speaker condemned the leadership for "insulting" the pride of the North. Roger Stott, treasurer of the group, said: "The 40 or so MPs who attended the meeting were incandescent with rage. We are fed up of these champagne à la carte socialists making these decisions without consulting anyone."

Juan Humble, MP for Blackpool North and Fleetwood, said: "Blackpool has been insulted. Labour has always alternated between the North and the South. They should revert to the same system."

Conservatives were quick to rally to Blackpool. An early day motion signed by 40 Tory MPs deplored reported comments by Labour spokesmen about the quality of the resort's hotels.

DISCOVER FOR YOURSELF THE TRUE COST OF BUYING AND SERVICING A NEW CAR WITH THE

# DAEWOO PRICE GUIDE

DAEWOO LANOS COMPETITOR CAR  
1.4 SE 3dr You fill in.

RETAIL PRICE	£9,495
Delivery & Number Plates	included
1 Year's Road Tax	included
1 Year's Free Insurance (Government endorsed by 30th June 1999)	included
3 Year/60,000 mile Free Servicing	included
3 Year/60,000 mile Free Comprehensive Warranty	included
3 Years' Free Total AA cover	included
6 Years' Anti-rustion Warranty	included
ABS	included
Driver Air Bag	included
Passenger Air Bag	included
Power Steering	included
Central Locking	included
Metallic Paint	included
Engine Immobiliser	included
<b>DAEWOO PRICE</b>	<b>£9,495</b>

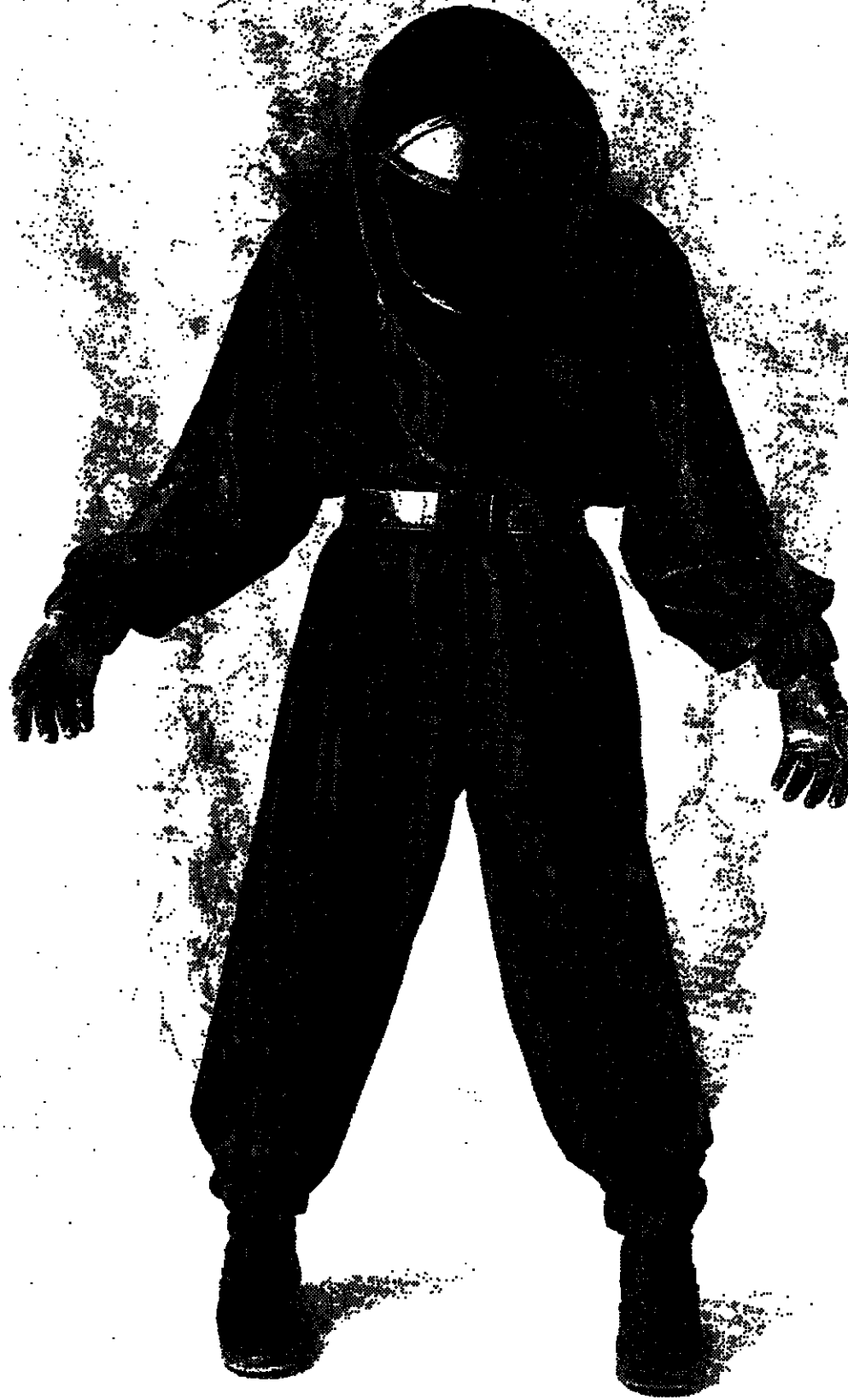
At Daewoo our new car prices have always included 3 years' free servicing (including all labour and parts), 3 years' fully comprehensive warranty and 3 years' Total AA cover. And, because we've cut out the middle man, we also offer more specification as standard. Daewoo fixed prices range from £8,795 to £14,995. Fill in the Daewoo Price Guide to find out if anyone else gives you as much as we do. For more information on any of our three brand new car ranges, please call us on freephone 0800 666 222. The real cost of motoring? That'll be the Daewoo.

DAEWOO





هكسان الكحل



## Toasted.

We apologise for toasting the Pentium® II processor in public. But facts are facts. According to benchmark tests carried out by

BYTEmark Integer Index Scores

Power Mac G3 266	9.01
Pentium II/300 Windows NT	4.26
Pentium II/266 Windows NT	3.77

*Twice as fast? You can look it up. In industry-standard BYTEmark tests, PowerPC G3 processors consistently outperformed the Pentium II processors.*

the highly respected BYTE magazine\*, the processor inside every new Apple

Power Macintosh™ G3 is up to twice as fast as the Pentium II.

That's because the PowerPC™ G3 processor is simply better designed. It's less than a third the size of a Pentium II/300—and shorter paths are faster paths. It has over twice as much Level 1 cache, for even greater speed. And, drawing less than 15% of the power consumed by a Pentium II/300, it runs far cooler.

Bottom line: In real-world applications, the PowerPC G3

scorches the Pentium II as vividly as it does in benchmark tests. Best of all, you'll be pleased to discover that you can now enjoy G3 power from as little as £1,199 ex.VAT (£1,409 inc.VAT)\*\*

It's right there in black and white. Despite all of those colourful costumes, Intel® just can't match the

performance of the PowerPC G3 processor that drives the newest Power Macs.™ Then again, they sure can dance.

To find out more, contact one of our partners listed opposite, call the Apple Information Centre on: 0870 6066220 or visit our Web site at: [www.euro.apple.com/uk](http://www.euro.apple.com/uk)

Adobe™ Photoshop 4.0 Performance (total time, 16 common tasks)

Power Macintosh G3 266	611.1 seconds
Pentium II/300 Windows NT	718.0 seconds
Pentium II/266 Windows NT	814.5 seconds

*In a suite of Adobe Photoshop tests, the 266MHz Power Mac G3 is up to 200 seconds faster than a Pentium II-based PC running Windows® NT.*



Think different.™

\* March 1998, Apple Computer, Inc. All rights reserved. The Apple logo is a registered trademark and Apple, Power Macintosh, Power Mac and Think different are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. All other product and company names mentioned are recognised as belonging to their respective companies. PowerPC is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation. Used under license herefrom. \*\* Suggested retail price of the Power Macintosh G3 266 desktop computer, as at 18/03/98. Ex VAT pricing for business customers only. Apple Resellers are free to set their own prices, so prices may vary from those indicated. Full details of the BYTEmark tests referenced here, are available on Apple's corporate Website at: [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)



14 HOME NEWS

# Ex-teacher in tribunal victory on equal pay

## Ruling casts doubt on separate salary scales, says David Charter

INDEPENDENT schools may have to raise the salaries of hundreds of women teachers after a tribunal backed a girls' school mistress paid £7,000 less than her opposite number at a boys' school. The result was hailed as a landmark by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, which brought the case.

The tribunal dismissed claims that girls' schools had to pay teachers less than boys' schools because parents were not prepared to pay as much for their daughters' education. It also rejected the claim that men should be paid more because male teachers were harder to find.

Eileen Halloran, 50, head of PE for nine years at City of London School for Girls, earned a basic £22,497 compared with £29,505 for Ronald Bailey, head of PE at the boys-only City of London School. She was also paid less than two male PE teachers at the

boys' school. The tribunal, which sat in Stratford, East London, found in judgment published yesterday that the Corporation of London, the local authority which also runs both schools, discriminated against Miss Halloran. Parents pay £5,886 a year for their daughters to attend the girls' school but £6,426 for sons going to the boys' school.

The corporation operated separate pay scales until 1995, when the mostly female staff of the girls' school were moved on to the scale for the mostly male teachers at the boys' school. However, they entered the scale at their historic levels, continuing the disparity.

Miss Halloran, now retired after 22 years at the school, will receive compensation to be decided at a future hearing. She said her former colleagues were delighted at the outcome and about 50 teachers stood to receive an increase in pay.



Eileen Halloran, who has retired, celebrates victory. She said former colleagues at the City of London School for Girls would be delighted

A spokesman for the Corporation of London said it was studying the ruling and could not yet say whether, if pay levels had to be changed at the girls' school, parents would face an increase in fees.

Peter Smith, general secretary of the ATL, said: "In the teaching profession generally it is well known that women teachers tend to be paid less than men, even though pay scales should be common. A significant number of the country's top public schools will now need to look at what they are paying their teaching staff as a matter of urgency."

Mr Smith said there were

up to 40 schools around the country that would have to review their pay structure. He added: "We strongly suspect this is by no means the only case where women teachers are paid significantly less than men in the same group of independent schools. In the light of this we will be writing to the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference advising that schools should immediately scrutinise their pay policies. Otherwise they will render themselves liable to some sort of challenge."

Hugh Wright, Chief Master of King Edward's, Birmingham, an independent boys'

school in a foundation that includes a girls' school, said teachers should expect the same pay levels from the same employer. "As far as we are concerned, we have the same salary scale and operate on the basis of equal pay." The ruling could, however, have an impact elsewhere.

# Body part sculptures exhibited in court

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A COURTROOM was turned into a makeshift art studio yesterday as a jury studied body part sculptures.

The jury trying Anthony Noel Kelly passed along a bench peering at his silver and bronze-sprayed creations, modelled on anatomical remains allegedly stolen from the Royal College of Surgeons. They included an old man's head and torso and a large chunk of a woman's body dissected to reveal her womb.

The jury were told that after preparing casts of the items, Mr Kelly made "exact copy" sculptures that were displayed at a London exhibition last year. Southwark Crown Court has been told that the pieces were taken at night and, after use, buried or hidden in a friend's flat.

Mr Kelly, 42, from Clapham, South London, and his co-defendant Niel Lindsay, 25, deny theft from the Royal College between 1991 and 1995. Mr Kelly also denies handling stolen goods.

Yesterday, the court was read a statement by a Home Office pathologist who catalogued the pieces at Greenwich mortuary. He listed a head and torso, another head, numerous limbs, feet, toes, a portion of a brain, a right buttock, what was thought to be male genitalia and some unrecognisable items.

# Volcano victims had a lousy day

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

LICE were infesting Hercules on the day in 79 AD that Vesuvius erupted and buried the city and its population under ash and steaming mud lava.

Proof has come from the discovery of a louse egg attached to the well-preserved hair of a young woman, whose bones were found with a group of skeletons known as "the fugitives" in the boat sheds on the ancient beach of the city. Anthropologists discovered the egg when they carried out a microscopic study of each of the woman's hairs. In *The Lancet*, Luigi Capasso and Gabriella Di Tola of the National Archaeological Museum in Chieti say that the woman was about 25 years old and eight months pregnant, with the foetus bones perfectly preserved.

She appeared to be from the wealthy upper class, which was why her hair was preserved. She was wearing an elaborate hairstyle held in place with a metal pin. The acidity of the volcanic mud that buried her rusted the pin and the iron salts that were released impregnated the immediate area. That meant that the hairs were saturated in iron oxide, the original proteins were destroyed and replaced with the salts.

A louse egg was found on one hair attached just above the back of the skull. An examination of the bone revealed an oval flattened outline in the area.

This kind of bone damage is associated with skin inflammations, including those caused by a louse as it sucks blood from its host. According to the report 22 per cent of all the skulls found at Herculaneum have similar depressions, indicating that infestations were common.

The authors say: "Contemporary writers note that lice were quite common in ancient Rome: both Salla the Dictator and the Greek poet Alcaemon died as a result of their infestation."

# Dixons

## SAVE UP TO £100 ON TOP BRAND PORTABLE AUDIO



**JVC RCX540 PORTABLE CD SYSTEM**

- Full remote control
- FM/LW/MW digital tuner
- 20 Track programmable CD
- 4 preset equaliser (Rock, Pop, Jazz and Classical)

Was £179.99. **£149.99.**

**Dixons Deal**

**SAVE £50**

**£129.99**

**PRICE CHECK**

## WE CAN'T BE BEATEN

Every week we check the prices of hundreds of products in the national press to make sure that Dixons Price Check prices can't be beaten!

**SONY SCOOP**

DESIGNER (SILVER) 10 SECOND ANTI-SHOCK PERSONAL CD PLAYER

- Active speaker system
- Programmable CD

Was £169.99. **FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR WORTH £14.99**

**SCOOP PRICE**

**£99.99**

**SAVE £60**

**PERSONAL CD HI-FI FROM UNDER £37**

**MATSUI CD202A** PERSONAL CD PLAYER

- FM adaptor
- Programmable CD
- Disc dock

Was £39.99. **£36.99**

**ALBA PC0200** 3 SECOND ANTI-SHOCK PERSONAL CD PLAYER

- Recharge facility
- Was £79.99
- FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR WORTH £14.99

**£49.99**

**JVC ALP2** 10 SECOND ANTI-SHOCK PERSONAL CD PLAYER

- Rechargeable battery
- Programmable CD

Was £109.99. **£99.99**

**SAVE £10**

**SANYO CP2000** WORLD'S FIRST 40 SECOND ANTI-SHOCK CD PLAYER

- Rechargeable battery with built-in charger
- Free adaptor

Was £249.99. **£149.99**

**SAVE £100**

**CD RADIO CASSETTES FROM UNDER £40**

**MATSUI CD27** CD RADIO CASSETTE

- 44.1MHz stereo radio
- Programmable CD
- Auto-stop

Was £43.99. **£39.99**

**Amstrad MC008** CD RADIO CASSETTE

- Top-loading CD player
- FM/LW stereo radio
- Cassette player with auto-stop

Was £79.99. **£49.99**

**HITACHI CX10** CD RADIO CASSETTE

- FM/LW stereo radio
- Programmable CD
- Auto-stop

Was £79.99. **£69.99**

**SONY CR222** CD RADIO CASSETTE

- Remote control
- Digital tuner with 30 presets
- FM/LW stereo radio

Was £119.99. **£99.99**

**HITACHI CX10** PORTABLE HI-FI

- FM/AM stereo radio
- Programmable CD
- Auto-stop

Was £119.99. **£99.99**

**SARUWA MS157** PORTABLE HI-FI

- Remote control
- Digital synthesised tuner
- Super Bass

Was £219.99. **£169.99**

**New Technology**

**SONY MZR30 RECORDABLE MINIDISC PLAYER**

Combines CD quality sound with all the convenience of tape. Features Digital Synchronised Recording for perfect sound reproduction and 10 Second Anti-Shock memory that means you don't have the hiccup when the disc jumps.

Was £299.99. **£279.99**

**6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION\***

**SAVE £20**

**SHARP MDMS702 RECORDABLE MINIDISC PLAYER**

Features an LCD remote for the ultimate in control and a 30 second Anti-Shock memory for smooth listening without interruption. This stylish and compact Minidisc Recorder is ideal for music on the move.

**6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION\***

**£299.99**

**\*INTEREST FREE OPTION**

Account to interest (based on 10% rate) in full before you reach the 6th monthly payment. Terms, conditions, cash price £299.99. 0% interest. 24 months. See account details.

0% INTEREST

29.5% APR. 48 monthly payments of £20.00. Total amount payable £248.22.

**WATCH OUT FOR OUR VOUCHER SPECIALS!**

Look out for the special voucher savings on selected products throughout this advertisement. Simply take this voucher to any Dixons store to claim your savings.

One voucher saving per purchase. Some voucher offers are an alternative to existing trade-in offers. Not to be used with other offers. Voucher use only. Secure using Code 6. Press Ctrl on offer. **ADVERT** These voucher prices valid only at Dixons, 20th March 1998.

# SWIFTCALL

## LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS

**10% OFF**

Australia 18p	N. Zealand 27p
Germany 12p	Pakistan 72p
Hong Kong 27p	S. Africa 34p
India 50p	Thailand 72p
Ireland 10p	UK 5p
Japan 20p	USA 8p

Call us today for details on fantastic savings to hundreds of other destinations and how to open your pre-paid account.

**0800 769 0033**

Call 1800 794 381 if you live in Ireland. 1800 336 3003 if you live in the USA.

**BUSINESS 0800 769 2222**







# Gang fixation heralded carnage

Culture of violence and fantasies lured young truants from popguns to murder, writes Tom Rhodes in Jonesboro

IT WAS a sombre return to school for the children of Jonesboro yesterday. Many cried, others walked with heads bowed to the wind and some turned back in despair before they reached the paving stones where four classmates and a teacher had been murdered in cold blood.

None could understand why two contemporaries, Mitchell Johnson, 13, and Andrew Golden, 11, had been transformed from childhood playmates to premeditated killers in front of their eyes.

"I can't believe my own classmates did this," said Colby Brooks as he walked past bouquets of white flowers and into Westside Middle School where counsellors sat in an every class.

An apparently lethal cocktail of Southern gun culture and gangland fantasy had combined in the minds of the two boys when they played truant on Tuesday morning and started a chain of events that ultimately led to a massacre.

But it has been a confusing and schizophrenic portrait of the two alleged killers that has emerged since they set off the school fire alarm, emerged from the woods and took pot shots at the groups of girls and their female teachers.

They were described by some as model students and polite children; others said they were spoilt, threaten-



Jackie and Doug Golden, grandparents of Andrew, are escorted out of a detention hearing in Jonesboro, Arkansas, where the boy was remanded over the school killings

ening bullies who brandished knives at school, habitually wore camouflage and talked of killing and survivalist training.

Both were said to have been enraged by failed relationships but that was merely a catalyst that made murderers of Johnson, who sang in a church choir, and Golden, barely 4ft tall.

The son of divorced parents who moved to Arkansas from Minnesota in 1994, Johnson was unfailingly polite. He showed a particular interest in girls, regularly opening doors and pulling out chairs for them in the cafeteria.

In January, he had started attending the Revival Tabernacle Church, a Pentecostal congregation where others in the congregation portrayed him as so pious that he would ask other worshippers to be quiet when they whispered during services. Recently, however, in tandem with a national phenomenon, he had become interested in gangs, most particularly the Cripps and the Bloods, the notoriously violent Los Angeles and Chicago street organisations.

Offshoots of the two gangs were created in Memphis, Tennessee, several years ago and their culture gradually has pervaded the towns

and rural areas of eastern Arkansas. Johnson often stuck his finger into the sides of friends, pretending he was holding a gun on them. He would draw the words Cripps Killers on to the dirty windows of school buses and claimed to be a member of the Bloods.

Terry Woodard, Mitchell's stepfather who is a trucker, said his stepson was also interested in American football and cycling. He had never owned a gun. "He never let on or nothing that anything was wrong," he said, "I don't have any idea what happened, it's not like him."

Golden, who became acquainted with gangland language through

his older friend, brought a different dynamic to the relationship. Like many in Arkansas, where target shooting is a rite of passage and children are often taught to use hunting rifles when they are younger than ten, he had learnt to use firearms from a very early age.

Lloyd Brooks, who lives five doors away from the Golden home, said he had warned his daughter Jenna, 12, to keep away from the boy. She was wounded in Tuesday's attack: her cousin, Natalie Brooks, was killed.

"I wouldn't let her play with this kid because, it's meant to say, he was so demented," he said, "He was always threatening people."

His father, Dennis Golden, is a founding member of the Jonesboro Pistol Shooters Association, a gun club that holds regular competitions in a gravel pit involving revolvers and semi-automatic handguns.

Douglas Golden, his grandfather, a state gamekeeper, had always encouraged his grandson to hunt and fish, pastimes that are so commonplace in Arkansas that the state police only this year finally introduced the Brady Bill, federal legislation requiring handgun owners to have background checks.

"We started buying him popguns from day one," he said. "He worked his way up to rifles and pistols. He could also shoot a bow. But he knew how to handle all kinds of guns, he always knew the dangers."

The youngster had killed his first duck before Christmas and next season had been hoping to be baptised as a deerhunter. Although some gun club members said he was "not very fast", he shot last year in the American Handgunner International Postal Match, coming 670th out of 719 competitors from around the world.

Reading of survivalist training from the pages of *Soldier of Fortune* magazine, the boys appear to have coaxed themselves into action, first

threatening their classmates with death and then engineering the reality. On Tuesday, attempting unsuccessfully to break into Dennis Golden's gun vault using a hammer and blowtorch, they instead stole an unhidden derringer, .38-caliber and .357-caliber before driving a white van to the home of Golden's grandfather.

Breaking in through a basement window, they helped themselves to his firearms collection, taking four pistols, three rifles and 3,000 rounds of ammunition.

The two carried about 200 rounds in the pockets of their camouflage clothing, concealing the rest in the back of the van where officers also discovered a large quantity of food, sleeping bags, camouflage netting, a crossbow, three large hunting knives and other wilderness survival gear.

From there they went to the school, less than half a mile away. Yesterday, Douglas Golden was unable to conceal his tears when his life's work was transformed into evil.

"They stole the guns," he said, adding hopefully, "Andrew told me he fired some shots. He said he shot at a car on the parking lot but I don't remember anything after that."

## Yates trip to suicide hotel ends after she snaps back

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

WHEN Paula Yates is in town, anything can happen. As I sipped a cappuccino in Sydney's Double Bay yesterday, my eye was drawn to an extraordinary scene unfolding across the road outside the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

A man was pinned backwards across the bonnet of a car by a blonde woman. Sydneyers take eccentric behaviour in their stride, and most would have assumed an undercover police officer was arresting a suspect.

In fact, an enraged Ms Yates was adopting a somewhat unorthodox media relations policy. The man was a photographer she saw as she left the hotel where her lover, Michael Hutchence, hanged himself in November.

Ms Yates, her daughter Heavenly Hiramani Tiger Lily and a friend, Belinda Brewin, emerged from the five-star hotel to see Bob Sack, a freelance photographer, taking pictures from a distance.

She stormed up and thrust him backwards, then grabbed his throat and screamed: "Leave me alone - my husband died here."

Mr Sack said: "I never expected Paula to react in this way because I was in a public place."

Ms Yates later told police Mr Sack punched her in the face, which he denies.

Ms Yates was in Sydney to record an interview with the Australian television programme *Sixty Minutes*.



Yates claimed she was punched in the face



Andrew Golden being taught to shoot at target practice

## Boy, 4, had loaded gun

Cleveland: A four-year-old Ohio boy has been caught for a second time with a loaded gun at a day-care centre. A teacher found the 9mm handgun in the boy's coat after being alerted by other children, *The Plain Dealer* reported.

Police were investigating whether the owner of the gun or the boy's guardian had committed a crime. "He is a bright, attentive, well-

cared-for child, but he is absolutely fascinated with guns," said Catherine Perry, administrator of the Shaker Boulevard Child Care Centre, which serves 117 children.

The boy told police he took the gun from a shop owned by his guardian's brother. In October, the boy went to the centre with a gun tucked into the waistband of his jogging trousers.

**STAPLES** ARE YOU PAYING MORE THAN...  
The Office Superstore

**49P EACH** INC. VAT  
FOR A CELLUX STICKY TAPE ROLL  
SKU 289595  
● 19mm x 66m

**25 DL WHITE SELF-SEAL ENVELOPES** SKU 273151  
STAPLES PRICE **99P** INC. VAT

**10 SIZE 1 JIFFY WHITE LITE BAGS** SKU 290544  
STAPLES PRICE **£1.49** INC. VAT

**3 PACK 8" SCISSORS** SKU 266020  
STAPLES PRICE **£3.99** INC. VAT

41 SUPERSTORES NATIONWIDE CANTERBURY NOW OPEN

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE  
**FREEPHONE 0800 141414**

**Copy Centre**  
● Black & White Copies  
● Colour Copies  
● Binding & Laminating  
● Custom Printing  
● Custom Stamps

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8AM - 8PM  
SATURDAY 9AM - 6PM  
SUNDAY

**150% ULTIMATE PRICE PROTECTION**  
Shop now before your favourite price goes up. We'll match it 150% (plus 5% on the difference) for 90 days. Offer ends on 31/03/98. Excludes special offers, clearance and other limited time offers. See us for details.

\*Price only valid in UK. Collect tokens.

**HONDA** THE TIMES

**A GIANT SURGE OF ENERGY. NO CHARGE.**

Starting in Monday's 20p Times a chance to win one of four Honda bikes, including a Honda Hornet described as "the last word in streetfighter excitement". Adventure is FREE IN THE TIMES.

**CHANGING TIMES**

Clinto of ne

WORLD WIDE

itions inju lombia bo

trejects dent

kills 24 sch

the Wall guar

iano seek- his

working for the

why m bank free?

24-hour telephone 0800 24







# Pact with Le Pen threatens Giscard's party

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A KEY leader of the conservative Union for French Democracy (UDF) has called for the party to be disbanded and replaced after the rebellion by five leaders who won control over regional councils with help from the extreme-right National Front.

François Bayrou, the former Education Minister, said that the group, the junior partner to the Gaullists in the centre-right coalition, was redundant.

"French democracy needs a big, strong party on the Right and Centre-Right, which is unified and responsible. Profound change is required," M Bayrou, head of the Democratic Force group within the UDF, said.

The move to break up the UDF, which was founded by the former president, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in 1978, and build a new centre-right party, was opposed by the group's overall leader, François Léotard, but supported by another

key centrist figure, the former Foreign Minister, Hervé de Charette.

Four of the five renegades who won election with the help of Jean-Marie Le Pen's National Front and sent shockwaves through the political system have refused to step down, despite M Léotard's warning that they will be expelled unless they do so.

Jean-Pierre Soisson, the newly elected president of the central Burgundy region, agreed to quit but the others, including the former Defence Minister, Charles Millon, have clung on, to become a rallying point for mounting discontent within the party.

About 17 UDF MPs have signed a petition of support for M Millon, claiming he is being "victimised", and Alain Madelin, the maverick free marketeer who initially opposed punishing the rebels, called him "a man of honour".

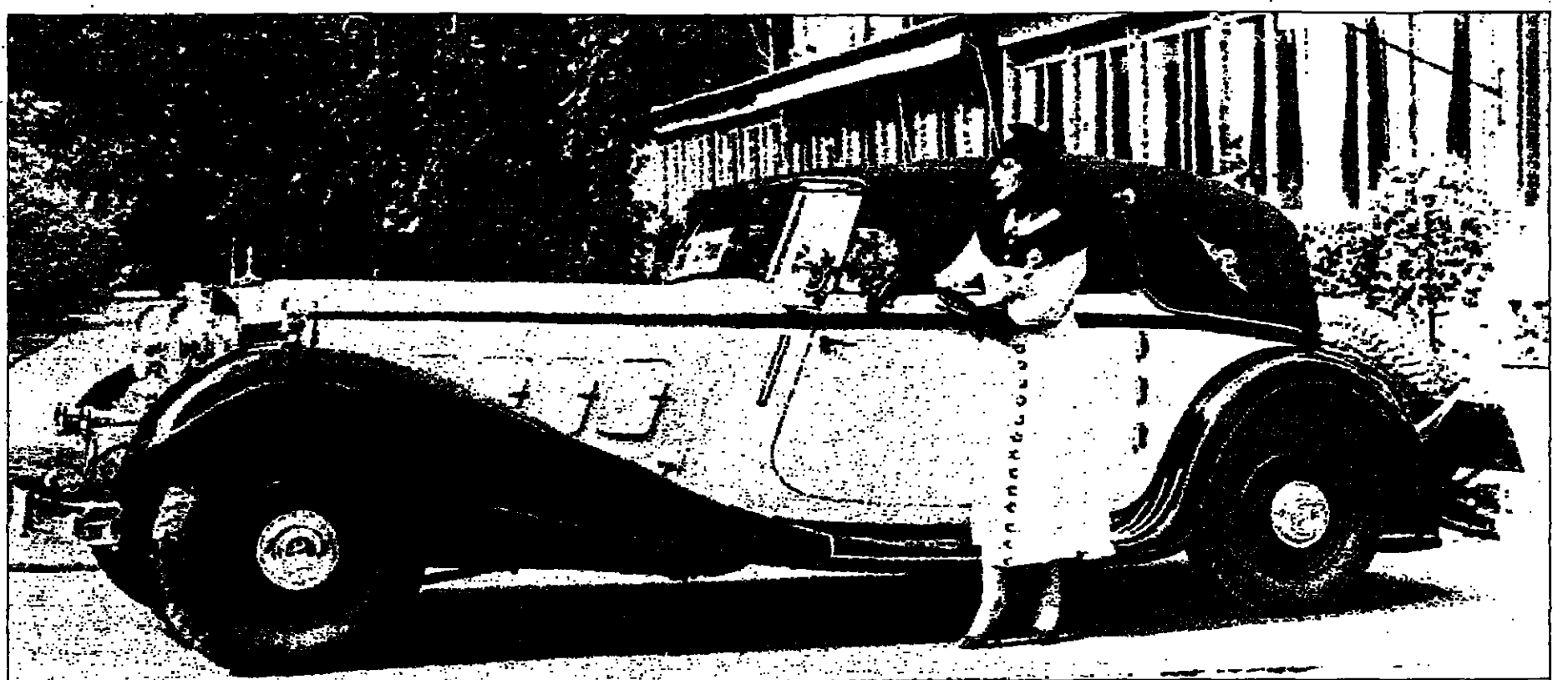
The explosion caused by the National Front's "king-maker" role after regional elections two weeks ago has seriously undermined the credibility of the UDF, and M Bayrou's move has been seen by some as an attempt to salvage the party before it self-destructs.

The UDF has 107 MPs out of a total 577, compared to 134 for their Gaullist coalition partners, the Rally of the Republic (RPR).

"I need clarity within the UDF. If that clarity does not exist, then I would have to act accordingly," M Léotard said this week. But he opposed the bid to found a new party in place of the UDF, observing that M Bayrou's actions appeared to be based on "personal rather than collective considerations".



Le Pen struck pacts with regional leaders



A Horch 1932 Sportcabriolet. Similar vehicles became favourites with film stars, including Marlene Dietrich, and American producers from Berlin's film studios

## VW calls on Horch power to pull it upmarket

The former people's car-maker is eager to produce a luxury model, Roger Boyes writes from Bonn

VOLKSWAGEN, once intended to be Hitler's people's car, is so determined to break into the luxury limousine market that it plans to revive the renowned pre-war Horch marque if it fails to capture Rolls-Royce.

The Horch was the most distinguished car on the Continent in the inter-war years and was a favourite of film stars and millionaires. The Horch 930S, presented at the Berlin Motor Show in 1939, had a concealed wash basin with running hot and cold water. The Sportcabriolet 853, a favourite of stars such as Marlene Dietrich and producers from the American film studios in Berlin, was widely regarded as the most glamorous model.

Now Volkswagen is considering bringing out a new Horch line, although it is reluctant to state this publicly in case it compromises its offer for Rolls. The mass-circulation *Bild* newspaper said yesterday that VW had offered almost £500 million for the British company, more than half of that would be invested in the Crewe plant over the next two years. Not everybody, however,

believes that VW is on the right track by pursuing Rolls-Royce and Bentley. Kurt Biedenkopf, the Prime Minister of Saxony, has been pressing the company to invest in German luxury car engineering and to set up a Horch factory in Zwickau, site of August Horch's original plant. Bernd Michael, one of Germany's leading experts on brand marketing, said that Rolls-Royce has an asexual image in Germany. Horch, on the other hand,

would symbolise "good old German engineering... every marque needs a certain myth, needs to be able to reach back to a fantastic history".

August Horch started his pioneering car designs with Carl Benz in 1896, but three years later he broke away to set up his own company. In 1902 he moved to Saxony and production rose from 15 cars in 1903 to 94 in 1907. "I was determined to produce only the most powerful and very

best cars," he said. After arguments in the boardroom, Horch left and started another company, only to find that he was not allowed to use his own name to label his cars. Instead, he called his new cars Audi, from the Latin word for listen: Horch is the German word for listen. Audi now belongs to Volkswagen, which has the right to the Horch name.

Even after August Horch had moved on, the new owners developed the

upmarket image of the Horch line and made it into the chief pre-war rival of Daimler-Benz. In 1932, 472 4.2-litre Horchs were sold around the world. Daimler-Benz sold only 282.

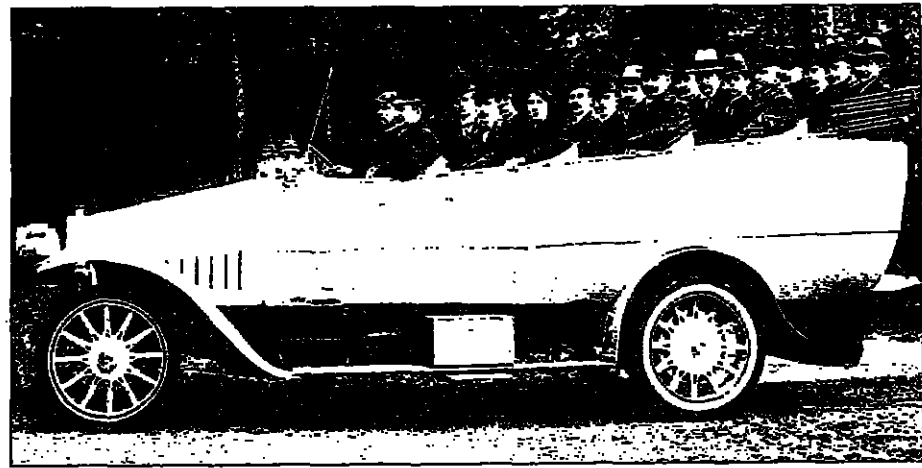
The new Horch would again be a rival for Daimler-Benz, and the competition would be a replay of the 1930s. Daimler-Benz wants to occupy the very top end of the limousine market, with a 400hp Maybach exhibited at the Tokyo Motor Show last

year. In 1937, Daimler put a Maybach SW38 up against the Horch Pullmann 951A. The Horch, however, clearly had the edge with its deep leather seating and carefully crafted wood panelling. After the war, bombed-out Germans sometimes used the seats and clucks from wrecked Horchs to furnish their living rooms.

Volkswagen has come some way since Hitler commissioned Ferdinand Porsche to design a car for the masses and thus establish the Nazi party as a modernising force.

Hitler's dream was never realised in his lifetime, since mass production was taken over for military vehicles. After the war the British military government in Northern Germany tried to persuade British car companies to take it over. But a British commission in 1946 dismissed the Volkswagen as having "more flaws than a dog has fleas".

The Beetle went on to sell 21.5 million and Volkswagen is now Europe's biggest volume car firm.



The Horch name, associated with luxury vehicles like this 17-seat 1912 omnibus, could soon be revived

Leading article, page 25

## Thomas Cook Offers

### GREAT DEALS ON YOUR HOLIDAY TO FRANCE

WITH THOMAS COOK HOLIDAYS FROM **£44**

Destination	Accommodation	Departure Date	No. of Nights	Travel	Per Person
Burgundy	Apartment	18 May	3	Ferry	£44
Vendée	Studio Apartment	25 April	7	Ferry	£49
Picardy	Cottage	01 May	3	Ferry	£59
Paris Asterix	3 Star Hotel	20 Jun	1	Ferry	£66
Vendée	Super Tent	15 May	7	Ferry	£69
Brittany	3 Star Hotel	04 Sept	2	Ferry	£73
Val de Loire	3 Star Hotel	24 April	2	Ferry	£80
Normandy	2 Star Hotel	05 June	2	Ferry	£80
Vendée	Super Tent	15 May	9	Ferry	£89
Brittany	Apartment	08 May	14	Ferry	£92
Normandy	Cottage	30 May	7	Ferry	£94
Picardy	3 Star Hotel	08 May	2	Ferry	£99
Burgundy	3 Star Hotel	21 May	3	Ferry	£117
Dordogne	Cottage	23 May	14	Ferry	£129
Vendée	Super Mobile	14 May	10	Ferry	£133
Vendée	Super Tent	21 May	10	Ferry	£141
Disneyland Paris	Ranch Davy Crockett	06 Jun	2	Le Shuttle	£169
Loire	Super Mobile	08 Jun	10	Ferry	£237
Brittany	Super Mobile	30 May	12	Ferry	£247
Disneyland Paris	Hotel Santa Fe	27 May	2	Eurostar	£259
Disneyland Paris	Hotel Cheyenne	6 May	2	Flight	£279

**HUNDREDS MORE IN STORE**

Hurry down to your local Thomas Cook shop or book by phone or see **Telereport** page 268.

**PLUS FREE ASTERIX BOOK WITH EVERY BOOKING**

Thomas Cook  
The nice surprise is the price

Credit Card Booking Line  
**0990 777 555**  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

## Announcement

Issued by National Savings on behalf of HM Treasury

### Fixed-rate Savings: New Issues

On sale 27 March 1998

**SAVINGS CERTIFICATES**

**Fixed Interest Certificates**

The 46th Issue offers a guaranteed and tax-free return of 4.8% pa compound when held for five years.

Minimum purchase £100  
Maximum holding £10,000.

**Index-linked Certificates**

The 13th Index-linked Issue offers a guaranteed and tax-free return of 2.25% pa compound in addition to index-linking when held for five years.

Minimum purchase £100  
Maximum holding £10,000.

Note: Tax-free Savings Certificates can be held in addition to Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs).

**PENSIONERS BONDS**

Series 5 offers a guaranteed rate of 6.1% pa gross for the first five years held.

Minimum purchase £500  
Maximum holding £50,000.

**FIRST OPTION BONDS**

From 27 March 1998 the gross rates, fixed for the first year, are:

under £20,000	6.5% pa
£20,000+	6.75% pa

Minimum purchase £1,000  
Maximum holding £250,000.

**CAPITAL BONDS**

Series L offers a gross return of 6.0% pa compound, guaranteed when held for five years.

Minimum purchase £100  
Maximum holding £250,000 for all series except Series A.

**CHILDREN'S BONUS BONDS**

Issue J offers a guaranteed and tax-free return of 6.0% pa compound when held for the first five years.

Minimum purchase £25  
Maximum holding £1,000.

The previous issues of Savings Certificates, Pensioners Bonds, Capital Bonds and Children's Bonus Bonds were withdrawn from sale on 26 March.

Call **0645 645 000** (charged at local rate) and we will send you details of any of these new issues.

**NATIONAL SAVINGS**



# Thousands starve to death in Indonesia drought

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN JAKARTA

THOUSANDS of people in Irian Jaya, the Indonesian half of New Guinea, have died from starvation and malaria in the past three months, according to aid workers who have just returned from the region.

Mortality levels have risen by more than 700 per cent in some areas of the Jayawijaya region after an eight-month drought that killed off crops and provided fertile breeding grounds for malaria-carrying mosquitoes, one Western aid worker reported. "It's much worse than people have been led to believe. At least 6,000 people have died and more are dying every day."

**“In some villages I went to, every resident had malaria”**

About 420,000 people live in central Irian Jaya, an area that includes some of the most inhospitable terrain on earth, a mixture of virtually impenetrable virgin jungle and 18,000 ft mountains. Indonesian Government figures say that only 420 people have died in the province since the end of last year. The aid worker, who has spent the past two months assessing the scale of the disaster, added that provincial agencies that were attempting to alleviate the suffering were hampered by a lack of funds, scarcity of resources and almost no political will from the central government in Jakarta. Most of the aid that is reaching the remote areas is transported by a fleet of 20 volunteer aircraft. He predicted that even though rain had started to fall in some areas it would be months before people would be able to harvest crops and feed themselves.



Bangladeshi boy jockeys, often under-fed and living in appalling conditions, are strapped to the camels and have little training. Their screams urge the animals on

## Smuggled boys saved from desert camel races

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DEHAQA

INDIAN police are holding 17 emaciated Bangladeshi boys who were being smuggled to the Middle East for use as camel jockeys. The arrests highlight a unique form of abusing impoverished children chosen for their semi-starved appearance.

The racket persists despite attempts by Bangladeshi and Indian border security forces to curb the smuggling of human cargo across the shared 1,700-mile frontier, most of it unsealed. The latest batch of boys were jailed in the southern city of Bangalore before being moved to a rented house. The children, aged around eight, are receiving regular meals for perhaps the first time in their lives. The authorities are deciding on whether to deport them to Bangladesh. Several adults accompanying the children, including five women, are in Bangalore central jail for passport violations and other offences.

They told police that they had paid large sums to middlemen who promised them jobs in the Middle East if they took a large number of children with them to be camel jockeys. The parents were paid minimal amounts to part with their offspring, all of whom are illiterate. The absence of telephones in most of Bangladesh has prevented authorities from contacting the parents. In camel racing, children are strapped to the animals and there have been a number of fatal accidents over the years. Saudi Arabia, attempting to clamp down on the practice, last month deported dozens of children who were in the country illegally.

Bangladeshi children are favoured because they tend to be more stunted than their marginally better fed Indian counterparts. Some are taken away as young as two, and many are underfed in the days before a race to keep their weight down. They often live in appalling conditions. Thousands of children are smuggled into the Middle East each year, mainly from South Asia, where there is a ready supply of poor parents ready to sell their youngsters for a pittance. The United Arab Emirates, where camel racing is especially popular, has banned jockeys younger than 14, but races are often held deep in the desert beyond the gaze of the authorities.

Middlemen who buy children are believed to receive around £1,000 per child — at least ten times more than the parents. Jockey training is minimal: the more frightened they are the louder they are likely to scream — which spurs on the camels. The riders' careers are short, because they are useful only while they remain small. The number of camel jockeys from South Asia has fallen substantially because of action in the sub-continent and the Gulf. But Indian police report an increase in the number of children being smuggled abroad to work as beggars.

## PoW claims deferred

Tokyo: Japan was accused yesterday of deliberately delaying a ruling in a PoW compensation case until Emperor Akihito completes his state visit to Britain in May (Robert Whyman writes). One lawyer close to the case said it appeared the court was dragging out the proceedings as long as possible. Tokyo District Court announced a further "technical" session on May 28, with no date given for a final ruling. Legal experts said yesterday's manoeuvre suggested that the court would rule against British former POWs claiming compensation from Japan for their suffering in Japanese labour camps. If the judges planned to award compensation, they argue, the authorities would have every reason to ensure that a favourable ruling preceded Emperor Akihito's visit. Japanese officials are worried that angry war veterans might stage protests during Emperor Akihito's visit.

## Debtor ordered own murder

Tokyo: A debt-ridden Japanese businessman arranged his own murder so that his estate would receive more than 300 million yen (£14 million) insurance. Kenichi Iwashiro, 47, asked a detective to kill him so his life insurance would repay the debts, a court official said yesterday. Haruo Yamagishi, 42, a detective, strangled Iwashiro with a rope and stabbed him several times in the chest with an icepick. The case has added a fresh twist to a rash of suicides in Japan, driven not by family or personal anguish but the embarrassment of financial failure or wrongdoing at the office. The detective was sentenced to seven years' jail for murdering Iwashiro in a car parked on a forest road in Awazumi, central Japan, on January 20 last year and for an attempted murder which had been ordered by the father of the

inspired victim. The detective tried to kill the second victim, a 26-year-old truck driver who fell asleep drunk at his home in October 1995. Yamagishi got into a car and tried to stage an accident in Fukumitsu, central Japan. The attempt failed when the car ran into a ditch instead. The son escaped after being struck with a wrench and the father is now serving a three-year jail term, the official said. (AFP)

NEWS SPORT WHAT'S ON FUN KNOWLEDGE MONEY SHOPPING TALK INTERNET

**“The Internet. Is there a way to cut through the jungle?”**

One FREE month's membership • Five FREE e-mail addresses • Ten FREE hours' access to the UK information and entertainment service. LineOne gives you fast access to the internet, and the home page directs you straight to the subject you're interested in, whether it's news, sport, money, business, education, fun, travel, shopping or what's on.

You'll find content exclusive to LineOne, the best websites, and you can even personalise the content that you find. Information for you. Very first month's membership. You can't get this experience or discounts in costs after that. LineOne is available from as little as £4.99 per month.

Try LineOne and the internet FREE. Call **0800 111 210**.

www.LineOne.net

It's what you want to know

**TALK THIS WAY**

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Ni  
begin  
Irac

Susp  
over  
of B  
sex m



# UN inspectors begin search of Iraqi palaces

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THE compromise deal that averted war in the Gulf last month passed its first real test yesterday when United Nations weapons experts conducted a trouble-free inspection of one of President Saddam Hussein's palaces.

Their first such visit after seven years of work symbolised his grudging acceptance of the principle that the inspectors must have unfettered access to every inch of Iraq's territory in the hunt for weapons of mass destruction.

A large delegation of inspectors was accompanied by 20 senior diplomats, among them a Briton and American — there to safeguard the "dignity and sovereignty" of Iraq, which had vowed never to allow access to eight sprawling presidential sites.

The inclusion of the envoys as observers gave Saddam a face-saving way out of the recent

crisis. Significantly, Saddam was out of Baghdad, visiting the southern holy cities of Najaf and Karbala, which helped to divert local media attention from the inspection of Radwaniya Palace on the capital's outskirts.

There was a cautious welcome from America which nevertheless gave a warning that the situation remained serious and said its huge military strike force would remain in the Gulf. "So far, the agreement is holding, that is all I ever wanted," President Clinton said.

His UN Ambassador, Bill Richardson, said: "The real test is going to be compliance over an extended period of time and not on brief, snap inspections."

With the eight sites covering a total of 125 sq miles and including 1,058 buildings, the inspectors face a formidable task that could take several

months. Washington and London remain deeply suspicious of Saddam, who has had ample time to remove any incriminating evidence of his outlawed weapons programmes since the dispute over his palaces erupted five months ago.

For the moment, Iraq appears committed to the Memorandum of Understanding it signed on February 23 with Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General. Richard Butler, the UN's chief weapons inspector, left Baghdad after four days of talks with Iraqi officials, which he said were extremely positive.

Yesterday's visit was a "baseline" inspection to establish the process for more detailed examinations. The other seven palace complexes will be inspected over the next two weeks. Security men, who waved yesterday's convoy through, had apparently been tipped off about the visit.



Saddam Hussein, making a rare public appearance, visited the Holy Shrine of Imam Ali in the city of Najaf, 110 miles south of Baghdad, yesterday

# Christian miracle site open in time for millennium

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE biblical village of Bethsaida, just north of the Sea of Galilee, where tradition says that Jesus performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes, was finally opened to the public this week after 11 years of joint excavations by Israel and an American university.

The impressive 22-acre site, complete with paths, signs and places for prayer, was inaugurated as part of accelerating preparations for millennium celebrations in the Holy Land, to which some 5 million Christian pilgrims are expected to pay special visits. Bethsaida is frequently mentioned in the Bible as the site of Jesus's miracles and the home of at least three of his Apostles. Archaeologists say that at the time of King David it housed a larger Jewish community than Jerusalem, although Gentiles lived in nearby towns.

"This was a city where people from diverse backgrounds lived and worked together in harmony and produced men who changed the course of world history," said Nancy Belck, chancellor of the

University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Bethsaida, Capernaum and Chorazin were thought to make up the triangle of villages where Jesus performed his miracles. Richard Freund, director of excavations from the university, said yesterday that the residents of Bethsaida had been predominantly middle-class people "who were not happy with their spiritual lives" and therefore open to the teachings of Jesus.

The excavations have unearthed three fascinating houses built with the local smoke-grey basalt rocks. One, dubbed the Fisherman's House, yielded anchors, fishing hooks and a needle for mending nets. Another, named Salome's House by the archaeologists after the mother of James and John the Apostles, contained a wine cellar with four jars, an oven and two basalt slabs used for grinding grain.

The site is expected to attract many pilgrims. The village is referred to seven times in the Gospels.



Guy Georges, arrested yesterday after DNA tests linked him to three killings in Paris

# Suspect held over 'Beast of Bastille' sex murders

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

ONE of the biggest man-hunts in French criminal history ended yesterday when police arrested a man suspected of murdering seven women in eastern Paris since 1991.

The suspect, identified by DNA tests, was seized near the Pigalle red light district hours after police issued a photograph of him.

Guy Georges, 35, unemployed and of Caribbean origin with a history of sex crimes, was formally charged with murder last night.

An arrest warrant was issued for M Georges, of no fixed address, after police matched his genetic

fingerprints with DNA collected from the scenes of three of the crimes. The killer became known as the "Beast of the Bastille" because the murders, in most cases preceded by rapes, were carried out in or near the Bastille area.

M Georges served a prison sentence for rape in 1985, and was charged with offences of "sexual aggression" on several other occasions, according to judicial sources, who said his genetic "fingerprints" had been on police file for at least three years.

More than 60 police officers joined the hunt for the suspected killer yesterday after M Georges was formally identified. He was arrested by uniformed police outside a metro station.

At least two of the murders took place after the DNA tests

arrest, the case has raised new concerns over police competence. It was not clear, for example, why the genetic "fingerprints" of a known sex offender living in Paris had not been examined earlier.

DNA testing has established that one man was responsible for killing three of the women, and police say there is a probability that he murdered at least four others.

All the murders, and one attempted one, took place between 1991 and 1997. But the pattern of attacks was interrupted in 1995.

At least two of the murders now ascribed to M Georges those of Helene Pringle in July 1995 and Estelle Magd in November 1997.

M Georges had been subjected to the DNA testing. A photograph of him reappeared by police yesterday bore little resemblance to the photofit picture of a "North African" suspect that was issued last December and published in every French newspaper and magazine.

Several senior police officers were angered that the name of their "No 1 suspect" was leaked to the media before he had been arrested, pointing out that this could have tipped him off and allowed him to flee. Comparisons between the DNA of Laurent Gasso, 27, a suspect in the murder of a schoolgirl last week and a specimen from the 1996 rape-murder of the British schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson, have proved negative, police reported. (AFP)

# To give you better value we cut out the middleman.

All the computers we sell in our showrooms are made in our own factories.

Unlike other high street stores, there is nothing to come between you and the best value.

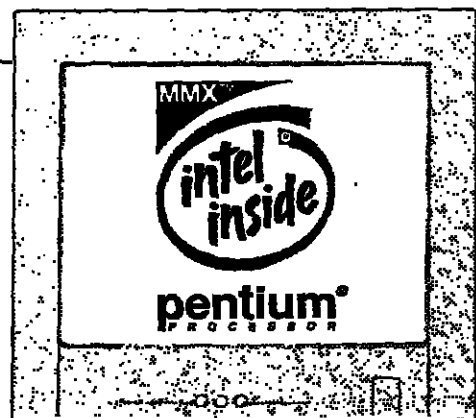
Which means we can afford to give you a high specification PC for your money.

And, because we make our own computers, we bring you the latest technology as soon as it's available.

Direct from our factory.

What's more, because you're dealing direct with the manufacturers, the advice you get is as expert as it is helpful.

So pop into Tiny today, it's your most direct route to the best value.



## HOME VALUE PLUS SYSTEM

- Intel 200MHz Pentium® Processor with MMX™ technology
- 16MB Fast EDO RAM
- 3.2GB UDMA IDE Hard Disk Drive
- 14" SVGA Colour Monitor
- 2MB 3D Graphics Card
- 24 Speed Max CD ROM
- 16-bit Stereo Soundcard and 180 Watt PMPO Speakers
- Epson Stylus 300 Colour Printer
- Over £590 of Microsoft and other Software
- Windows 95

**£799** ex VAT  
**£938** inc VAT

**THE YEAR 2000**  
Many PCs will need costly re-programming at the turn of the millennium  
**ALL TINY PCs WILL BE OPERATING PERFECTLY ON JAN 1ST 2000 GUARANTEED**

**PROCESSOR SPEED**  
Only Intel® processors are always measured in true Mhz. Others can be 30% slower  
**ALL TINY PCs HAVE INTEL® PROCESSORS FOR GREAT MULTI-MEDIA.**

## HOME BUSINESS VALUE SYSTEM

- Intel Pentium® II Processor 233MHz
- 32MB SD RAM
- 4.3GB UDMA IDE Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
- 4MB 3D AGP Arcade Quality Graphics
- 24 speed Max CD ROM Drive
- 56kpbs Voice Fax/Modem
- Waveable 32 Integrated Sound
- 180 Watt PMPO Speakers
- Epson Stylus 300 Colour Printer
- Over £540 of Software including Microsoft, Flight Simulator 98
- Windows 95

**£999** ex VAT **£1173** inc VAT

**OTHER SYSTEMS START FROM**  
**£646** inc VAT

## POWER PLUS SYSTEM

- Intel Pentium® II Processor 333MHz
- 64MB SD RAM
- 5.2GB UDMA IDE Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
- ATI XPERT® Work 4MB 3D AGP Arcade Quality Graphics
- 32 speed Max CD ROM Drive
- Waveable 32 Integrated Sound
- 180 Watt PMPO Speakers
- 56kpbs Voice Fax/Modem
- Over £820 of Software including Microsoft Flight Simulator 98 & Dorling Kindersley Educational Software
- Windows 95

**£1299** ex VAT **£1526** inc VAT

**PAY NOTHING UNTIL 1999 NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT**  
**REPAYMENT EXAMPLE**  
**HOME VALUE PLUS SYSTEM**

PC cash price £970.55 (inc delivery £27+VAT @ 17.5%). Pay whole balance on or before due payment date interest free. Alternatively, pay 36 monthly payments of £45.56. Total amount payable £1640.16. APR 26.9%. Interest is calculated from day one of agreement. Written quotations upon request. Finance subject to status.

FOR MORE INFORMATION FREEPHONE  
**0800 731 9372**

# TINY

**THE BIGGEST PC MANUFACTURER IN THE HIGH STREET**

TINY COMPUTERS LIMITED, REDHILL BUSINESS PARK, BONEHURST ROAD, SALFORDS, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 5YB. FAX 01293 822 514. www.tinycomp.co.uk

**56 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

- |             |               |                |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| ALTRINCHAM* | GLoucester*   | NORTHAMPTON*   |
| BELFAST     | GUILDFORD*    | NORWICH        |
| BIRMINGHAM  | HUDDERSFIELD  | NOTTINGHAM     |
| BOLTON      | HULL          | OXFORD         |
| BRIGHTON    | ILFORD        | PETERBOROUGH*  |
| BRISTOL     | IPSWICH*      | PLYMOUTH       |
| BROMLEY     | KINGSTON      | READING        |
| CAMBRIDGE   | LAKESIDE      | ROMFORD        |
| CANTERBURY  | LEEDS         | SHREWSBURY     |
| CARDIFF     | LEICESTER     | SOLIHLULL      |
| CHELMSFORD  | LIVERPOOL     | SOUTHAMPTON    |
| CHELTHAM    | LINCOLN*      | STOKE*         |
| CHESTER     | LONDON W1*    | SWINDON        |
| COVENTRY    | LONDON SW10*  | TUNBRIDGE      |
| CRAWLEY     | LONDON EC2*   | WELLS          |
| CROYDON     | MANCHESTER    | WATFORD        |
| EALING      | MEADOWHALL    | WOLVERHAMPTON* |
| EDINBURGH   | SHEFFIELD     |                |
| EXETER      | MILTON KEYNES |                |
| GLASGOW     | NEWCASTLE     |                |

**ROMFORD OPENS SATURDAY**



**HOT TIP**

You're so late that you are doing your make-up in the car. But the light is poor, the mirror is too small and you end up with circus clown cheeks. Trucco has brought out a transparent blusher gel that helps to avoid such social mishaps. Although the gel looks like a vibrant shade of fuchsia, even a huge amount rubbed on to your cheeks creates only a rosy glow. Cheeks by Trucco, £12 (01222 228688).

**Objects of desire**



■ This quirky lamp has a beaded wire framework reminiscent of an octopus. The lightbulb is guarded with a fine, hole-punched metal cylinder, which creates a wonderful effect of patterned light. By Graham & Green, 4 Elgin Crescent, W11 (0171-727 4594).



■ For a dash of simple colour, these wool V-neck jumpers come in lemon, sky blue and raspberry. Trimmings in velvet for that bohemian feel, they are all the rage at Vogue. Velvet-trimmed V-neck, £139, from 3F HOME, 4 Kingley Street, W1 (0171-437 6822).

Photographer: Ryan Sullivan  
Stylist: Deborah Brett  
Hair and make-up: Helen Bannion  
Model: Sarah Pritchard



Black net dress with orange silk butterflies by Dolce & Gabbana, 175 Sloane Street, London SW1

**A butterfly summer**

**SIX OF THE BEST**

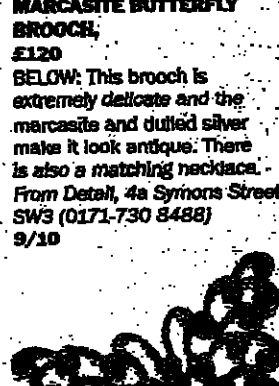
Butterflies have landed on cardigans, dresses and shoes. Here are six of the best butterfly accessories around.



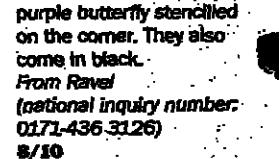
**RED SILK BUTTERFLY BAG,** approx. £290  
ABOVE: With its fine silk-painted butterflies and an old-fashioned metal fastening, this bag is simply breathtaking. The leopard-print lining is Dolce & Gabbana's signature detailing.  
From Dolce & Gabbana, 175 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-235 0335) 10/10



**BUTTERFLY HAIR PINS,** £2 each  
ABOVE: These feather butterflies, imported from China, are attached to fine metal wire and can be fastened to hairclips, tucked into ponytails or threaded through buttonholes to transform a simple cardigan.  
From Basia Zarzycka, 135 Kings Road, SW3 (0171-351 7276) 9/10



**BUTTERFLY HAIRCLIP, £7.95**  
ABOVE: This hand-painted hairclip is made from delicate feathers. If the bug look is too much for you, it adds a pretty touch without overdoing it.  
By Johnny Loves Rosie at Fenwick, New Bond Street, W1 (0171-629 9161) 10/10



**FUCHSIA HIGH HEELS WITH BUTTERFLY DETAIL,** £50  
RIGHT: These vertiginous heels are not only in the season's hottest colour, but have a discreet purple butterfly stencilled on the corner. They also come in black.  
From Ravel (national inquiry number: 0171-436 3126) 9/10



**MARGARITE BUTTERFLY BROOCH,** £120  
BELOW: This brooch is extremely delicate and the margarite and dulled silver make it look antique. There is also a matching necklace.  
From Detail, 4a Symons Street, SW3 (0171-730 8488) 9/10



**PURPLE BUTTERFLY NECKLACE,** £85  
ABOVE: The rich amethyst-encrusted butterfly, suspended from a fine beaded chain, gives this delicate necklace an air of opulence.  
From Erickson Beamon, 38 Elizabeth Street, SW1 (0171-259 0202) 10/10

COMPILED BY DEBORAH BRETT

**Bugged by creepy-crawlies**

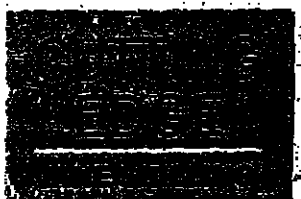
There is something about an English girl that can't resist a creepy-crawly — of the straggled variety, that is. Something to do with our inherent love of the countryside, no doubt. Just look at the English Oscar hopefuls, stepping out in Tinseltown with their inner Milkmaids bravely on show — Kate Winslet in figure-gripping leek-green Alexander McQueen for Givenchy, with an immense gold-embroidered dragonfly hovering at knicker line; and Helena Bonham Carter with the same creature, in diamonds this time, perched on her hair-do. "Hope nobody swots me," she said to Bentley, the Bond Street Jewellers that lent her the creature.

Well, quite. What is it, one may wonder, in human nature that leads us to turn into little pieces of personal adornment, things that, if they came and sat on our picnic lunch, we would drive away with cries of dismay and flapping napkins and squirts of Flit? I blame the Victorians, who were obsessed with insects. What with their complicated social structures, and their unimaginable variety and numbers, and their excessive, unnecessary beauty, the insect world was something of an irritant to the Victorian mind, so fond of making inventories and explaining what things were for.

Perhaps this explains the obsessional 19th-century attitude to insects — those great drawers full of thousands upon thousands of neatly pinned-out bugs at the University Museum in Oxford. Like an entomologist's crown jewels — and also the habit of transforming them, in gold and jewels, into something at once more frivolous and less ephemeral than their real selves.

Look in the window of any good antique jeweller, and you will see an exquisite swarm of little fluttering, creeping, stinging things, in pearls and gems and precious metal. Bentley currently have an extraordinary object — a large green and gold cockchafer with iridescent enamelled wings, being ridden by a coral cherub with diamond wings. Less surreal, and infinitely wearable, are a fragile pair of gold and pale enamel butterflies with diamond set bodies. Well over a century old, but as up to date as anything to be found at Prada, only a few yards away down Bond Street, those butterflies are a useful reminder to anyone who may be inclined to think of fashion as being about as durable as a fruit fly's life span.

This season, the glossy magazines have been looking rather like bestiaries — alive with Matthew Williamson's beaded cobwebs on chiffon,



and dragonflies embroidered on organza; and Vivienne Westwood's remarkable sea serpent and lily crinoline, and most of all, with butterflies. They are everywhere — caught at Givenchy in the Perspex wedge heel of a china blue leather slipper, or pinned strategically to a clear plastic corset. Dolce & Gabbana poised them in pale blue on a pin-striped wool suiting bustier, and scattered them in hot blue and cerise across a tulip pink chiffon shift. But this sort

of fantasy comes expensive — and by expensive I mean, looking as good as the Red Admiral caught behind a window pane.  
What to do? I'd really like those "crescent" butterflies, pinned to a Warehouse slipper, dress, and worn with Emma Hope's butterfly-print smokes, and matching pumps — or, if we were going to Paris, Scooter's moles inlaid with mother-of-pearl birds and butterflies (from 10, Rue Turbigo, Paris), and a splash of Armani-Goutal's Grand Amour or Petite Cherie, which come in glass bottles (rose red and sky blue respectively), with a butterfly stopper.

And if the budget won't stretch to that, they'll still turn to D.Y. Antonio Berardi showed a delicate hand-made black lace butterfly motif,

whose close relations may be found hiding at the back of many an unpromising second-hand shop and department store haberdashery counter. It would look particularly pretty stitched in swarms to Miss Selfridge's rose pink net T-shirt (if one were willing to stray outside the insect world, Miss Selfridge also has a wonderfully sexy sleeveless stretch lace top with a pattern of feathers, high-necked and modestly lined in pink at the front but unlined at the back). Equally tempting are Johnny Loves Rosie's jewels and enamelled hair clips — £7 for a brace of amethyst butterflies, £10 for a card of four butterfly clips, or £10 for an eerily lifelike Chalkhill Blue or Swallowtail made from feathers — the perfect present for a creepy-crawly fancier.

THE TIMES

save 15% on designer collections at LIBERTY

See The Times Magazine on Saturday

CHANGING TIMES

**LONDON'S PREMIER FURNISHINGS STORE**  
At the top end of Tottenham Court Road

**SUPERB SAVINGS**  
on Upholstery Ranges such as...  
**SANDRINGHAM - SAVE 25%**

Beautiful coil sprung sofas with feather cushions offering deep soft comfort, combined with practical dry cleanable loose covers make this collection irresistible. Also available as made to measure sofas from 69" to 98" wide and any size in between.

For example:	Usual Price:	Special Offer Price:
Large Sofa	£1699	£1419
Small Sofa	£1799	£1349
Chair	£1179	£879

Up to 40 Months Interest Free Credit available  
Example Cash Price £2000 Deposit £600-40 Monthly Payments of £45 Total Payable £2400  
Subject to Status. Please ask for a written quotation.

Open 7 Days a Week  
Sundays 11am - 5pm - Thursdays late until 8pm

**FURNITURE Village INTERNATIONAL**

MAPLE HOUSE, 145 Tottenham Court Road, London W1  
Tel 0171-382 2000 Opposite Warren Street Station  
also at Furniture Village by the Bridge, 316 Wandsworth Bridge Road, London SW6 Tel 0171 610 6111

AN TOP JOSEPH

Behind an a

PUBLIC AUCTION

# I think, therefore I am feeling better already



**MAN ON TOP**  
**JOE JOSEPH**

Many people are surprised by the new fashion in America for emotionally troubled people to seek help from "philosophical counsellors" rather than from traditional psychiatrists, but it seems like a perfectly logical step to me. After all, the whole point of philosophy is to put life into perspective. Philosophy provides the sense of balance which helps you appreciate that just because some people think England's cricket team is totally talentless, that doesn't mean there aren't plenty of others who think they should all be shot.

For example, if you visit a philosophical counsellor at one of America's new Dialectics 'R' Us outlets. (Ground Floor, Basic Premises, First Floor, Ethics and Empiricism; Calling at all floors up to Rationalism and Semiotics) and you say to him "Last week I lost my job, yesterday somebody

stole my new Mercedes and this morning my wife left me a note on the fridge door to say she was running off to Argentina with another man — can you believe my luck?", the philosophy counsellor is equipped to put your anxiety into context by replying straight away: "Look, I still can't believe my cat's luck in having two holes in her coat exactly where her eyes happen to be, so in the broad scheme of life's mysteries, yours is a drop in the metaphysical ocean."

And then, because he happens to be an intellectual whose mind can work on several planes at once, he will casually add "Cogito, ergo sum", which is a famous philosophical term meaning "Leave a sum of cash at reception as you go".

The new American craze for Pascal over Prozac is part of a broader fashion boom. Philosophy cafes, which first appeared in Paris, have just crossed the Chan-

nel. The hippest bracelet to wear on your wrist in New York and Paris right now is a rubber band inscribed with the word "Wisdom". The beardies who subscribe to *Philosophy Now* magazine can mail-order a T-shirt bearing the message "If nobody is observing this T-shirt, does it still exist?", to which the appropriate Socratic response, as Bertrand Russell pointed out, is "If you washed that T-shirt occasionally, would it still smelt?"

Even Alain de Botton is writing a follow-up to his successful book, *How Proust Can Change Your Life*, called *The Consolations of Philosophy*. It's a sort of epistemological pharmacopoeia. To combat depression, for example, he prescribes someone equally gloomy, such as Schopenhauer, presumably on the second philosophical principle that the safest

place for the fly to settle is on the fly-swatter itself.

Lou Marinoff, a philosophy professor in New Jersey who has set up as a "philosophical practitioner" in Manhattan, says "psychology has failed" — except, apparently, in its fee structure. Marinoff charges his patients \$100 (£63) an hour to shed philosophical light on their personal crises, which is exactly what they were paying their psychoanalysts (*Basic Syllogism Exercise 1*. They pay their counsellor \$100 an hour; 2. I am now their counsellor; 3. So let them pay me \$100 an hour).

Until now, philosophers have been too academic and have spent too long barking up the wrong tree. In the real world most people are less interested in finding out whether there's a God as in finding out whether there's a reliable plumber within 30 miles who answers his phone at weekends — preferably one who

doesn't belong to that secret plumbing sect whose members face excommunication if they don't create two new, and potentially lethal, leaks in a wosname during every visit (this is actually a standard technical plumbing procedure, known in the trade as a "pension plan").

Marinoff, though, is convinced that philosophy can be a practical tool to help us all, but particularly those people he calls "refugees from psychology". To Marinoff, "a breakdown in marriage can be seen as a breakdown in issues about obligation or duty or responsibility. But it can also be viewed in terms of power struggles and so one could bring Kantian or Hobbesian systems to bear."

I don't like to quibble, but are Kant and Hobbes really very consoling? If you're heartbroken because your wife is leaving you, and you want a second philosoph-

ical opinion, I would personally prescribe a course of Zeno. This is how it works. First, suppose you are in your sitting room. Zeno would argue that for your wife to walk out the front door, she must first walk half the distance between the sitting room and the front door; then she must walk half of the distance that remains between her and the front door; then again half of what remains; and so on ad infinitum, with the result that however minute the distance left to cover between her and the front door, your wife will — logically — never actually reach the end of this seemingly short journey. See?

Of course, while you're sitting at home wondering why more people don't seek Zeno's help to save their marriages, your missus is already half-way to Buenos Aires and has left you feeling a complete chump. But that's philosophy for you!

## Behind the man in an actor's mask

Gabriel Byrne's hair stands in stiff meringued peaks. "The Christian Slater look," he announces with amused self-disparagement. The spiky coiffure is touched more by *The Simpsons* than Hollywood superdardom.

It seems to shriek that the man himself may play the game, but that there are reserves of wit, thought and sentence untainted by the dollars and billings.

He is here to promote his latest film, *The Man in the Iron Mask*, where more frilly shirts are sported than when Adam Ant was at his peak, and it is all rush from one capital to the next. "It's like a Rolling Stones tour without any of the fun," says Byrne.

The dark, watchful eyes and literary allusions that spatter his conversation hint at the Dublin schoolteacher he was for eight years before turning to acting in the late Seventies. His output has been prodigious and highs include *Deception of the Realm*, *Miller's Crossing*, *Little Women*, *Trial by Jury* and *The Usual Suspects*. The lows — he cites *Cool World*, with Kim Basinger and Brad Pitt ("like being sedated for three months") — come with the territory.

"I've always chosen my roles but I've never had any goal or plan," he shrugs. "I grew up in a working-class part of Dublin and I didn't have much money so I don't know why that isn't important to me. It never has been."

### Gabriel Byrne on divorce, his children, money and loyalty. Interview by Moira Petty

He seems to carve his own swath through the politics of Hollywood and of his native country. He was a prominent campaigner for the release of the Birmingham Six, and later he was executive producer of the film about the Guildford Four, *In the Name of the Father*, which was attacked both by the British establishment and the IRA. Lately he has settled in Beverly Hills, possibly the last place you would expect to find this 47-year-old Irishman.

"It's too easy to be clichéd about Los Angeles, to paint it as soulless," he says. "People there do tend to be consumed by the film business but it's culturally rich despite surface impressions."

More importantly, this is where his children, Jack, ten, and Romy, seven, live with their mother, actress Ellen Barkin, from whom he was divorced in 1994 after a six-year marriage. Living near his work means that he can see them every day.

The opportunity to take the children to France for the filming of *The Man in the Iron Mask* was the reason for

accepting the role of d'Artagnan. "My daughter wanted to see where the Hunchback of Notre Dame lived. As we went past, the bells in the tower rang and she held my hand tightly and said: 'Oh, Daddy, he's at home'."

"When we divorced, first and foremost we thought of the children. When you break up, it's not like saying: 'Instead of going out on the town, let's separate'. There was a great deal of sadness, bitterness, and self-blame."

"It was like going through a death. But I said that the children were the most important thing and that my regret and pain, and my wife's, were secondary."

They met shortly before co-starring in the 1987 film *Siesta*, a movie which proved that explicit sex scenes can be mind-numbingly boring.

"After the film we found that we had more in common than the film," he says.

"She's a strong woman and I'm a strong man but I've never bossed her around as I was once reported as saying. Our break-up is a private issue. People like to point to just one thing but human relationships are complex."

Byrne was recently reported to have formed an attachment to Julia Ormond, his co-star in *Smilla's Feeling For Snow*.

"I've been linked with a lot of people but I wouldn't talk about anyone without their permission," he says.

He admits he would like to be involved again in a serious relationship. Of remarriage, he is less sure. "Our expectations are unrealistic. Relationships vary in time and intensity and just because it only lasted a few years doesn't mean it was a failure."

His aim for his children is to "keep their lives simple. The biggest battle in America is against materialism. It's important that they retain their secondary cultural roots in Ireland and they switch easily between the two countries."

Byrne films in Ireland when he can and his new production company, Phurabelle, connects him to another Irish emigré, James Joyce. Anna Livia Phurabelle was a character in *Finnegans Wake*. Byrne was

born in May, 1950 in the new Dublin suburb of Crumlin, built to take the flow of people from the city centre. His horsemanship, seen in *Iron Mask*, came from the days of riding bareback on wild horses from the nearby gipsy encampments.

He was the eldest of six children, crammed into the new utilitarian homes. "To many it was an incredible luxury but it was also an alienating experience."

His father, a soldier in the Irish army, and his mother, a nurse from Galway, met at a dance. Later his father was forced into early retirement from his job making barrels for Guinness.

"That must have been very traumatic for him. I thought he was ancient but now I can see he was a young man."

With his mother as breadwinner, Byrne was recruited to help around the home. "I was basically a housewife at 14. Now, if I stay in a hotel, I start tidying up."

At school, taught by Catholic Brothers, Byrne was routinely abused, both sexually and physically, from the age of eight to 11.

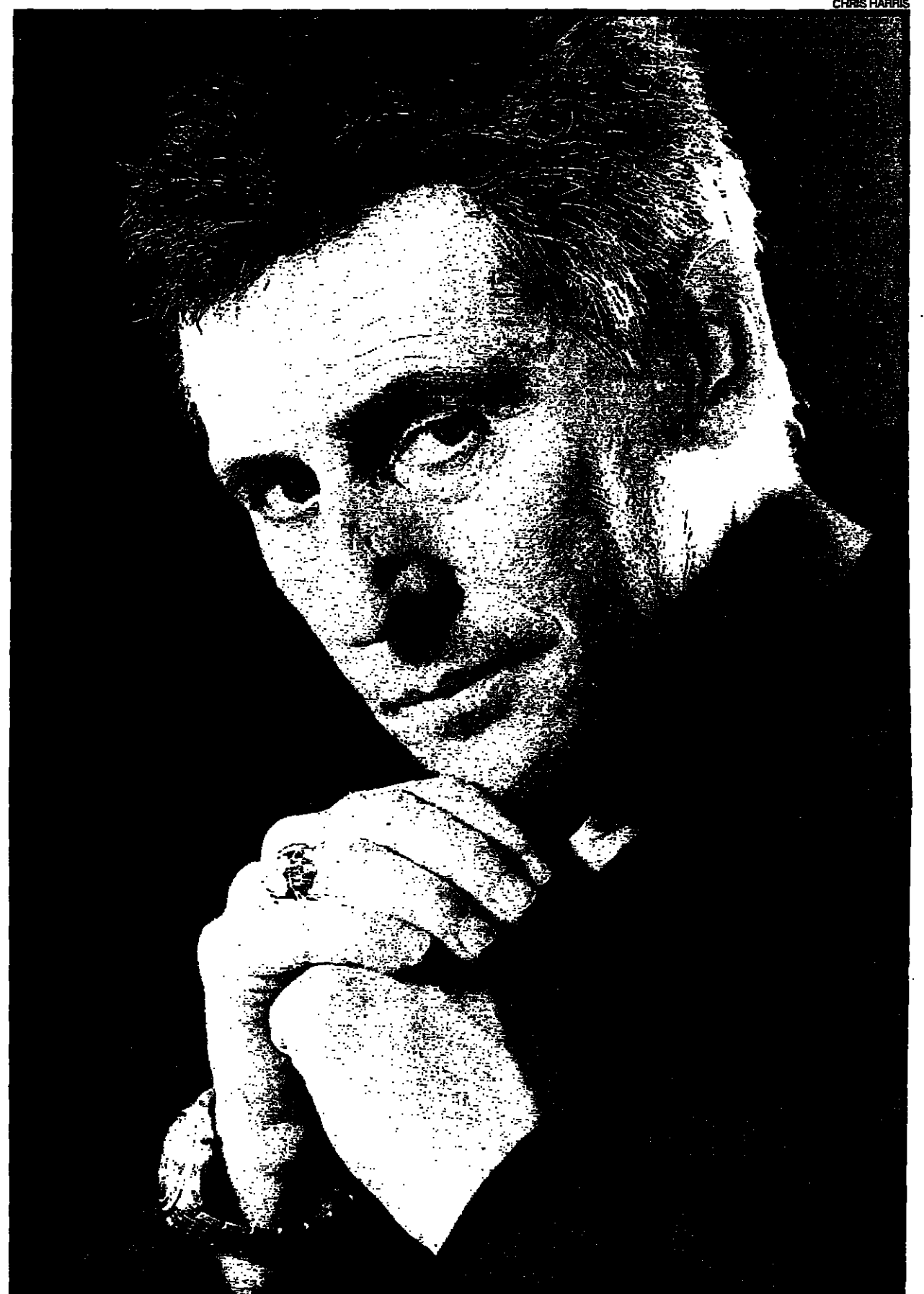
"I was very angry about it for years but recently I've dealt with it. St. Francis of Assisi said that it is by forgiving that we are forgiven. It is too easy to blame the men themselves. The school was so much the domain of the Brothers, that it was rare for parents to complain and physical punishment was the norm, allied with extreme Catholicism."

At 11, having seen a slide show of missionary priests in action, he opted to train for the priesthood. He remained at the seminary in Droitwich, in the Midlands, for nearly five years until "the lure of girls and the outside world was too much. Just because we weren't allowed out among them didn't mean we weren't reading the guide books. We used to look up words like cleavage."

"Once a theatrical group was invited to perform and one of the girls took off her dress, revealing a black slip and these incredibly white legs. As the bus took them away, we were all hanging out of the windows, waving to her."

Byrne read Spanish, Gaelic and Archaeology, at Trinity College Dublin. He continues to be intrigued by the metaphysical and the theological.

"The only proof there is of a God is the pattern of universal suffering which is meted out in greater or lesser degrees. It led me, a few years ago, to the sad



Irish actor Gabriel Byrne, newly coiffured on the promotion trail for his latest film, *The Man in the Iron Mask*

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
TOP EXHIBITION STANDARD EASTERN RUGS  
Abolished Export to Florida, USA  
in Violation of United States Trade Embargo  
**PERSIAN, INDIAN, AFGHAN AND TURKISH**  
Carpets, Rugs, Runners,  
As indicated by TRANSWORLD SHIPPING & FINANCE Co. Inc. Miami, Florida  
Who unwittingly included in this enormous consignment many Persian (Persian) items which has disqualified its exportation. As the collection is in the main paid for only a few items from a national reserve. Viewers will find a breathtaking display of top rugs except for exhibition at a high level throughout Florida.

**ANTIQUES AND CONTEMPORARY:** Cassino and Odeon Dynasty  
Alabat, Afghan, Bohemian, Bohemian, Biedermeier, French, Italian, Meissen, Niki, Saxe, Czech, Tazew, Haverdham, Easton, West, Tuscany, Ingles and a host more too numerous to mention in sizes ranging from small scatter rugs right up to extra large carpets and all sizes in between.

**SILKS AND TRIBALS:** A beautiful collection of handwoven culture carpets and handwoven rugs and carpets from the various regions of Persia and Afghanistan.

**AUCTION 1 ON SATURDAY 28th MARCH**  
At Weybridge Hall Church Street Weybridge  
Sale at 3pm Viewing from 2pm

**AUCTION 2 ON SUNDAY 29th MARCH**  
At Harpenden Community Centre 7th High Street Harpenden Herts  
Sale at 3pm Viewing from 2pm

Terms: Cash, Cheque, Credit Card  
FEATHERSTONE at ROSS IN HILL, HARPENDEN, HERTS. TEL: 0494 761111 FAX: 0494 761112

My aim for the children is to keep their lives simple

realisation that you can look after and love your children but you can't protect them from suffering.

How, then did he cope with the death, in 1987, of a sister, five years younger than him, when complications set in after a routine operation? "It was one of the most horrendous things that has happened to me. I felt very mortal."

His screen death in *Iron Mask* was conducted with some levity. "Gérard Depardieu and Jeremy Irons whispered silly things in my

ears." Leonard DiCaprio and John Malkovich also star but "all egos were checked in at the door", says Byrne.

While the *Iron Mask* is an entertainment, says Byrne, it's also "about themes we need today in our cynical world where even children are encouraged to be cynical. It is about loyalty, sacrificing yourself for your beliefs and friendship. I believe that it all comes down to the questions, who are we? And why are we here?"

● *The Man in the Iron Mask* is on general release.

**KENYA**  
Mombasa - Kenya's Coconut Coast  
03 May - 05 July 1998  
14 nts BAMBURI BEACH (HB) £449  
14 nts TRAVELLERS BEACH or TIWI (HB) £499  
14 nts NEPTUNE PARADISE (All Inclusive) £589  
A wide range of safaris also available.

**Sunair**  
HOLIDAYS  
0181 423 3000

Flights from Heathrow with Kenya Airways  
The pride of Africa

**THE STICKLERS**

I ALWAYS KNOW WHEN ALAN'S GOT SOMETHING ON HIS MIND. HE TAKES ME FOR A ROUND OF GOLF.

SO...ERL WHO'S THIS MIKE JACKSON THEN?

HE'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE AT BIRMINGHAM MIDSHIRES BUILDING SOCIETY

SO WHY HAVE YOU GOT HIS HOME NUMBER?

ERL DIRECTORS THERE GIVE OUT HOME NUMBERS SO CUSTOMERS CAN PHONE WITH ANY USEFUL SUGGESTIONS.

OH COME ON! YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN

HE JUST WOULDN'T BELIEVE A CHIEF EXECUTIVE WOULD DO THAT!

WHAT? YOU MEAN IT'S TRUE?

EXCUSE ME!

ONLY KIDDING... BUT IT IS DIFFERENT YOU MUST ADMIT!

WELL, IT'S A DIFFERENT SORT OF BUILDING SOCIETY

**Birmingham Midshires Building Society**  
People make the difference



# Well worth waiting for, Mr Field

At last the maverick's hour has come, says John Lloyd

The nature of our character," Frank Field wrote in a pamphlet published two years ago, "depends in part on the values which welfare fosters."

The sentence could stand as a rubric for the proposals he unveiled — awkwardly, stumbling a little, he is no great shakes as a Commons performer — to a largely welcoming House. For what he has brought forward are the principles for a reform, what Tony Blair in his introduction to yesterday's Green Paper said was a "political and intellectual framework" for the first comprehensive review of the welfare state since Beveridge, more than 50 years ago.

Principles are not details: these will come later, perhaps much later — for this is a programme which Mr Field advertised as lasting to 2020. If Tony Blair is the Conservatives' nightmare for being so much one of them, Frank Field is their Room 101, the nightmare of nightmares. He has combined a lifetime of activism on behalf of the poor with steady dedication to a position on Labour's Right which is so independent that most of his best speeches and writings were to Conservative or neo-Liberal think-tanks.

More than any other figure, long before Blair, he was bridging many — not all — of the supposed gulfs between right and left-wing philosophies on welfare.

He is a committed Christian, a past warrior against the far left who tried to unseat him from Birkenhead, a master of detail and the possessor of a wholly unspinnable charm. He proposes change in the name of values the Tories thought they owned. But hitherto he has been unable to match his aspirations to practicalities, and there has been a question-mark over how far he enjoys Mr Blair's support.

Yesterday's Green Paper, and Mr Field's speech, have put that argument to sleep — though if these proposals are to echo down two decades, then the battles around their implementation will be epic indeed. But he has believed for some time that a fundamental revision of the welfare state must be given a philosophical and moral basis, and that he has done. It lies in his concept of the self.

Frank Field believes in self-help, self-improvement and selfishness. He thinks people do things first of all for their own and their family's advancement. And since he also thinks that the "values which welfare fosters" shape character, he believes that a diversity of welfare shapes hard characters. People thus often pursue their self-interest by defrauding the State.

Long gone, for most, are the days when being means-tested for welfare was a stigma; it is now, for many, a sought-after status conferred at so that life can be led in a trough of dependence, or work in the black economy can be augmented by state payments.

Welfare must thus be re-shaped to foster the kind of help that helps oneself. Work,

and the effort to find work, must attract reward. Cheating must attract worse penalties. Means-tested benefits, a pet hate of Mr Field's, must be gradually replaced by comprehensive benefits, with the poor assisted more through tax credits than payments.

Work is the key, the "success measures" for his eight principles for change are all about whether or not more invalids, single mothers, young and old people can be nudged back into work. This philosophy includes a few interesting indications that Mr Field wants to redefine work more broadly than is customary. He wants, for example, carers — those who look after the aged and the sick at home — to be recognised, supported and paid.

Will all this save money? The Treasury will attempt to make it so, but Mr Field is no cutter. In one of the interesting ideological turnabouts which are routine for new Labour, a formerly leftist Chancellor has been fighting to keep the costs of the exercise down against the right-wing Field, who sees growing income inequality as a scourge of modern society and who managed to say so in the Green Paper.

When the first thin planks of welfare were laid across the chasms of poverty in the opening decade of this century, the poor were many, men lived on average age 48 and the canny worker saved against life's tragedies through friendly or mutual associations. Mr Field likes the spirit of these times; he wants them to return, at least in the sense that today's much richer and longer-living citizens take on themselves the responsibility for their sickness, accidents and age — except where they cannot.

For him, even more than for Mr Blair, much of the period since Beveridge has been going the wrong way, a beguiling and easy way which has led to anomie, sloth and idleness. Now, when the really poor are fewer and the cheats take in £4 billion a year, the taxpaying classes no longer consent to welfare à la carte.

The poor must be seen to be deserving again. Mr Field would like the rich to pay higher taxes to assist the poor; but not until he proves that they cannot help themselves, and that society will genuinely be knit more closely together by redistribution.

He has been — as he reminded the House — at this work for three decades now. He was new Labour long before its time. When it was so unfaithful on the Left that its only means of expression was through the Thatcherite wing of the Conservative Party. It is a remarkable political voyage which docked yesterday. It is set to go on, with or without Frank Field at the helm, for years yet. New Labour will be crucially defined by its success.

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman

## THE GOVERNMENT WILL SET SPECIFIC TARGETS FOR US ALL TO AIM AT...



# Live and let crumble

Like all ruins, Brighton's West Pier has soul. Refurbishment would kill it

There was only ever one thing of beauty in Brighton, and they are about to destroy it.

The Brighton Lanes are rather sweet, I suppose — as the French say, *curieux*. The Regency facades, like a thousand other Regency facades, are quite fine. The Grand Hotel is, in the nature of Grand Hotels, grand; and the Pavilion is as soulless and gaudy as any camp Arabian fantasy can expect to be.

But nothing touches us; nothing moves the spirit; nothing stirs the memory... nothing, except the ruined West Pier: that "drowning chandelier" of Hanif Kureishi's imagination. It was the most beautiful thing.

And now they want to destroy it. Yes, destroy, for a ruin has the soul of a ruin, and to refurbish a ruin kills what there was and replaces it with something new.

New and dead. New and yet utterly unoriginal. What will now rise upon the rusting stanchions and lurching cross-members of the wrecked West Pier will be a mixture of tart-up and replica. The intention is to make the structure look as if it did 90 years ago. Isn't there enough in Britain that looks as if it did 90 years ago? Heavens, that isn't even old: just a lifetime's span away. We shall gain one more neo-Victorian correction, and lose something unique, a sad and lovely ruin. We shall spend £30 million to kill something, and receive in its place a neat pile of artificial art.

Because a ruin is, as we all are, dying. It is a living thing, time-bound, organic as much and changing with time. A period reconstruction is the opposite. The conservationist's version of formaldehyde, it is to architecture what cosmetic surgery is to Joan Collins: a pretence, an attempt to arrest time, a sort of blasphemy. How appropriate that the funds should be raised by an exclusive levy on the tackiest national lottery in the world.

The idea that we can and should freeze beauty, that we can vacuum-pack a previous age, sterilise and preserve a moment in history, is a combination of arid scientism and cultural timidity. It is to bring the values of a zoological taxidermist to the practice of art.

Buildings become specimens. Had they been Georgian piers, the confident Victorians would certainly not have preserved them. Had piers existed in Elizabethan times and survived into the Georgian era,

architects would have clothed them in bricks to make them look Georgian. But we? Such is our failure of confidence in our own culture that we deprive schools and hospitals in order to find the cash to renovate a perfectly uninteresting example of 19th-century frilly ironwork on stilts over the sea. The gasometers outside St Pancras Station are more remarkable.

By the shores of Lake Titicaca in Peru stand four great stone churches. Built by the Jesuits many centuries ago, they are the size of small cathedrals, each different, each a magnificent statement of religious confidence: Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair! cried the Jesuit God to the tribal chiefs of the old Inca empire.

All four churches are now decaying: two are close to ruins. I spent time among them ten years ago. We had to force our way past some tin sheeting blocking a side door to get in. I wrote this: "The scene confronting us was reminiscent of a background in oils by Fragonard. Bindweed sprouted up through the floor. Small trees had taken root inside the walls, and from the great stone pillars and arches above us, flowering weeds cascaded down from their lodgement in great cracks in the masonry. Part of the roof had caved in and in the half-light, birds and bats shrieked and wheeled in from the open sky."

A cross dominated one nave, unadorned. It looked out upon a debauched scene. For the greenery nibbling through the windows and down the walls, and the vivid streaks of wet moss and fern advancing upon where the altar had been, combined with the baroque carving of Indian converts to suggest an austere faith under siege from something alien, something rich: throttled by it, crumbling as the roots of pagan magic prised and burrowed their way in, tearing it apart. Nature had formed a conspiracy with art to choke the modern certainties the Jesuits had brought to this place, and all was returning to what it had been."

Abroad, one so often encounters worthy attempts to "preserve" the manifestations of a native culture which has been destroyed by invaders. I find the exhibition of objects — temples, carvings, masks — which once had primitive meaning and are now displayed as "art", infinitely more insulting than their destruction would be. If it's dead, let it go. Let it crumble, let it burn, let us watch the flames and know that it has passed.

Visit Old Havana if you can, and soon. The economic paralysis which comes with communism has left this incredible relic of a Spanish colonial city to rotter through the tropical storms, bits falling off here and there,



Matthew Parris

I love ruined churches. A church is built by faith; conviction fires those who execute and pay for her construction, and those who have worshipped there and keep her. A church is a monument to conviction — the clothes, if you like, in which Faith robes itself. So long as Faith persists the building too should be loved, tended and renewed — as the faith is renewed.

But when the faith dies and the worshippers die, the building should be allowed to die too. It is sad, of course, but the real sadness is the death of the belief, of which this physical decay is a sign. When the State becomes involved in preserving religious architecture, something obscene intrudes.

You do not, by shoring up the brickwork against decay, revive the once-living thing which has died at its core. You may say it is undignified to see a proud church become the home to pigeons and a billboard for graffiti. Then let those who still believe in the thing the church was built to celebrate make their own time and find their own money to repair it.

If they will, that is a touching thing. If they will not, there is also something touching in the slow disintegration of the beauty they once paid for. Nothing degrades more deeply than the approach of the taxpayers' aspice.

roofs sagging and walls bowing, ironwork rusting. There is a terrible danger that a new, tourist-conscious and outward-looking Cuban regime will extract billions from some world development fund to reconstruct and refurbish Old Havana and "restore" to its former glories — as the guide-books will say. Oh I do hope not. "The Spanish Empire is gone. Let Old Havana die."

Leave Karibid to rotter, too. After 1945 the Czechs recovered the old Sudetland and Karlov Vary; as it was renamed, fell into disrepair. A few years ago this deep gorge crowded with tiny streets and towering town houses, colonnades and sanatoria was an atmospheric place of rotting grandeur and stunted pretension. Now they are "restoring" it. Soon it will be full of canoodlers and BMWs. While Karibid was dying, if lived, now it is being revived, it will die.

I am sorry that the Labour Party is leaving Blackpool, but so be it: its members must be true to their own soul or lack of it. If a rusty, peeling Winter Palace which people could love no longer suits a PVC-framed party in search of double-glazed stadiums in which it can "do business", then so be it.

The best outcome would be that Labour has a change of heart and stays. The next best outcome is that it goes — and leaves the Tories to demonstrate that continuity and affection still have a place in our imaginations. Third best would be for the town to bulldoze the site completely, and fill it with the amusement arcades which Glaswegian holidaymakers crave.

But the worst outcome would be that Blackpool decides to strip and recreate its Winter Palace in a manner "in keeping" with what it once was — plus fire doors, of course, something in polystyrene baroque with lacquered, non-tarnish brass fittings and fireproof carpet. I dare say Blackpool, too, can hope for a £10 million grant from the National Lottery for such a project, now that Brighton's West Pier has one.

Death is a fact of life. Decay is a sign of growth. Everything living is crumbling. Every year the West Pier seemed to have staggered a little lower into the English Channel. One day it would have collapsed completely. That was a good thing; its rescue is a bad thing. West Pier is dead: long live the National Lottery.

## Beware of forcing us all to save

Tim Congdon says compulsory second pensions are risky

One of the great revelations of the late 20th century is that market capitalism is the most efficient form of economic organisation ever devised. Its impressive ability to deliver high living standards depends on a very unromantic principle. Good investment decisions must be rewarded with high returns; and bad investment decisions must be punished by the partial or total loss of the investors' money. The inequality of returns, and the occasional loss of money, are intrinsic parts of the system.

The welfare state works on the contrary premise, that everyone must be protected against extreme inequality. It is meant to ensure that living standards for the less well-off do not fall below a certain minimum.

Whereas the efficiency of capitalism depends on a clear relationship between effort and reward, the welfare state assumes that too clear a relationship between effort and reward may be socially unacceptable. This tension is latent in every page of yesterday's Green Paper. The Government wants Britain to benefit from the individual accountability that makes capitalism so efficient. But it also wants to make sure that no one falls badly behind the average.

The central flaw in the modern welfare state is well-known: it is the problem of so-called "moral hazard". If people believe that they will be protected whatever they do, they have little incentive to do anything; in particular, low-income groups have no motive to save. The Financial Statement and Budget Report last week identified one of the results of this lack of incentive: "Nearly half of the adult population have less than £200 in liquid savings and a quarter have no savings at all."

An obvious remedy for this shocking situation is simple: compulsion. Implicitly the message for those who plan to save nothing would be: "We know your game. You think the State will look after you in old age in much the same way as people who do save for retirement. You are right that we are morally obliged to look after you in old age. But we will call your bluff. If you won't save voluntarily, we will force you to save."

This message is fair enough in its way. Australia and Chile have put in place arrangements for compulsory saving by individuals for their employees' into private pension schemes. The Green Paper makes no definite commitment, but it undoubtedly intends to tilt the public debate into a discussion of such options.

But do compulsory private pensions have any advantages over compulsory social security contributions? Why have a system where everyone by law has two pensions instead of a single state pension plus voluntary savings? One benefit is psychological: it is easier to identify with one's own personal pension pot. More importantly, where provision is private, the savings must be invested in productive assets, mostly via equities and bonds. So the nation's savings ought to be higher when pensions are funded.

But a system of compulsory second pensions carries, at least potentially, huge political and social risks. Most studies show that the long-run annual rate of return on equities has been between 6 and 7 per cent in real terms. This is a handsome figure, by law, but equities have been extraordinarily volatile over time. Large swings in investment returns from year to year are common, but they would be acceptable if they averaged out to 6 per cent over, say, a decade.

Unhappily, the historical record is that equity returns can be very high or miserably low over periods as long as 15 or even 25 years. For example, the real annual return on UK equities in the 15 years to 1974 was negative and in the 25 years to 1974 a mere 2 per cent. Conversely, the real annual return on UK equities since 1978 has been over 10 per cent.

The danger is that people are forced to put money into second pensions, with a high equity component, ahead of a 15- or 25-year period when equity returns are unsatisfactory. The so-called "pension mis-selling scandal" shows how angry savers can become.

The British public would be furious if they were legally compelled to buy second pensions which made them worse off over periods of many years. Given a choice, they might prefer to build up their assets through buying houses and paying off mortgages. Second pensions do not have to be invested in equities. But a safe investment — in, say, index-linked government securities — would not be very different from an enormous national insurance fund covered by social security contributions.

The Government's motives and aspirations are admirable, but it must tread cautiously. Equity markets around the world are expensive. They are at levels which have in the past been followed by considerable investor disappointment over the medium term. New Labour wants to harness the efficiency of capitalism in the service of greater social equality. But it must remember that "both capital and income values can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested."

## Shooting star

"HUNT scum John Mortimer, QC. We know where you live. See you later." Such was the greeting awaiting the amiable buff, quaffer and writer on his telephone answering machine. This, I can disclose, is just one of a series of threats and attacks aimed at Mortimer and his family since he began his high-profile defence of hunting. Among the less edifying gestures was the posting of noxious substances through his letterbox. The celebrated *Rumpole* author's support for hunting is brave, as it annoys his urban Labour chums. It is also disinterested: he has never hunted.

"The voice sounds suspiciously like a middle-class animal-rights activist," he says. The caller cannot be traced. "I have been comforted by a former Northern Ireland minister," Mortimer says. "He told me if people want to kill you, they don't ring. They call, unannounced, and do it."

Hunting types fear that Mortimer's trouble heralds a campaign by wider opponents to target famous supporters, who include Jeremy Irons, Anthony Andrews and, rather less helpfully, Tara Palmer-Tomkinson. Sympathy comes from Kate Hoey, the hunt-friendly Labour MP, who says: "I have had nasty letters saying 'we hope the sabs get you'." Jack Straw has told me at a private meeting that he is aware of the terrorist element and has promised not to be bulldozed.



### Late edition

JOHN Major left the Trollope Society annual dinner empty-handed after hosts lost the gift to be presented to him. A bound first edition of *The Prime Minister* had been entrusted to Al Gordon, the 97-year-old Wall Street plutocrat, marathon runner and Trollopean, to ferry from New York. Gordon arrived but left the book in his chauffeur-driven car, which he then sent away. A scout was sent from high table to scour Holborn. Eventually, a formula was agreed. The book is very old and it is too fragile to present. We will give it to you in due course tomorrow," Gordon said to a baffled Major.

performance of Glean Hoddie, the England football coach. "The trouble with Glenn is that he lacks desire to win," she said after the dreary draw with Switzerland. "He needs more oomph in midfield, my favourite position."

### Chianti royal

FIRST he declared his predilection for Italian peasant food; now the Prince of Wales is set to become patron of a new Italianesque club. The Prince is being lured to the Accademia, a ciabatta throw from Buckingham Palace, by his friend Dr Rosa Maria Letts. There, over Chianti and gnocchi with pesto, he will be encouraged to develop his appreciation of southern art. "The Prince is sweet and very sensitive," purrs Dr Letts, who has signed Omar Sharif, Norman Lamont and Rory Bremner. "He's a special person who appreciates art." Of more interest might be the club's nocturnal pleasures. It boasts a piano bar with dancing.

MY dear friend Ann Widdecombe has been on her Belleville to register her dismay after I printed a photo of the MP from her warty days. I thought she looked delightful and my accompanying note was meant affectionately. But if she is offended,

### Kanga roost

THE dream hat of the late Lady Tryon has been put on the market. Kanga, as she was known to her friend Prince Charles, bought the



chivalry demands that I publish this sincere apology.

Sir Norman Foster designed paid last summer. The three-bedroom Battersea flat was fitted with a Claudio Silvestrini interior and is being offered by her executors on behalf of her children for £865,000. Tragically, Kanga never recovered to see it finished.

### MY snap shows Society Spice

courtesy of the P.G. Wodehouse Society's magazine, showing the inspirations for modern imitators. The first ginger was Roberta Wickham, daughter of Sir Cuthbert Wickham. Other girls had names too long to mention, but all wanted to be Posh Spice. It suggests that Bertie Wooster mooched in the front row for most performances, goggling at renditions of *If you wanna be my husband*. The society flourishes. A member has met a Spaniard labouring for a PhD in "a comparison of the approach adopted by different Spanish translators to the idiomatic language of Wodehouse."

REANS... IN THE... The...





## REASSURING RADICAL

Frank Field has built on ground cleared by Blair and Brown

Almost unnoticed, the terms of the welfare debate have radically changed. Over just a few months, the question has become not whether to reform welfare but how. Hardly anyone now claims that the current system should be left untouched. And hardly anyone now defends the right of people to live on benefit if they could instead work. In that context, yesterday's Green Paper, *A New Contract for Welfare*, builds on a shift of opinion engineered since the election by Tony Blair and Gordon Brown.

Although conceived mainly by Frank Field, the paper bears many of the hallmarks of last week's Blair/Brown Budget. There was something in it for both ends of the political spectrum. Those on the left will like the promise of higher spending on health, education and the disabled. Those on the Right will welcome the emphasis on responsibilities and the determination to root out fraud. Like the Budget, however, there was nothing for those who want the status quo. If taken to its logical conclusion, this Green Paper is radical without being overtly left or right-wing.

Workfare, for instance, looks likely to be extended to all. Mr Field claims that the contract between the State and the citizen has changed. Now that the Government is planning to offer more opportunities to the unemployed, "it is the responsibility of those who can take them up to do so".

This approach may help to tackle the problem of those who are simply unwilling to work. But there are other categories of unemployed too. Some are genuinely unemployable by virtue of low ability; others lack skills, a problem that may be remedied with time. But, when the economy turns down again, employability will be no guarantee of employment. Work is a panacea only when there are jobs available.

Even Mr Brown cannot abolish the business cycle, so many of these welfare reforms will help people into work for only limited periods. At this stage in the cycle, with unemployment still falling and job opportunities plentiful, an extra few hundred thousand people may be given the chance of work. Unfortunately, many will lose their jobs again in recession. But at least they will have had some experience in the labour market, which will improve their prospects when recovery sets in again.

The other logical conclusion of the paper, though not spelled out, is an eventual shift from a universal state pension to a guaranteed minimum income in old age. Most people in work can afford to save more for their retirement, and the State cannot afford to finance people's expectations of higher living standards for several decades of old age. Mr Field is right therefore to consider higher compulsory second pension contributions and greater help for those pensioners at the bottom.

Three-quarters of people already have a private pension, and these pensions are now paying out £30 billion a year. As a result, pensioners' incomes have risen much faster than those of the population as a whole, by more than 60 per cent in real terms since 1979. The case for the State continuing to support all pensioners, rich or poor, is gradually eroding. But there is still a minority with no private provision.

Future governments may have to concentrate their resources on the poorest elderly people. But they have other duties to the rest. If those now in work are to be forced to save more for their retirement, they must be able to do so with security. So the Government has to ensure that inflation does not eat away their savings. And it must regulate private pension providers to ensure that they do not exploit their customers, either by selling them inappropriate products or charging them excessive hidden fees.

The final legacy of this Green Paper may eventually be a pension system similar to that proposed by the Tories before the general election. Labour's misrepresentation of "Basic Pension Plus" was its most dishonest act of the campaign. Mr Blair has shamelessly stolen many Conservative policies. He may end up purloining the one he affected most to despise.

## THE LOW COUNTRY

Belgium has let down both refugees and EU partners

The world's poor, tired, huddled masses have long been victims of the unscrupulous. Criminal gangs reportedly rake in extortionate payments for smuggling illegal immigrants across Europe's frontiers. Asylum seekers are exploited by bogus advisers, selling purported expertise to those in no position to question their credentials. Now, it seems, even some European officials are conniving in a racket to get unwanted foreigners off their shores. Eurostar is the favoured route out of the Continent. In recent months hundreds of Kenyans, Kosovans and others fleeing turbulence and war have been turning up in Britain after being dumped on the train in Brussels by anonymous officials who gave them tickets which they were allegedly advised to eat.

Officials from the secretive K4 committee, dealing with the vexed issue, meet regularly but appear powerless to cut through the bureaucracy and obfuscation that characterise the EU's faltering attempts to formulate a common policy on asylum that is fair, humane and workable. Britain has every right to be angry with its continental partners if they are taking advantage of this country's island status and the legal loophole that exempts Eurostar, alone among air and sea carriers to Britain, from the responsibility to ensure that its passengers are legally entitled to enter the country. Last year it was the French who found a way of hustling unwanted Somalis through the tunnel; now it is the Belgians who, according to some of the hapless Kenyans, have been mysteriously trying to buy off any obligation to deal with this human problem.

Jack Straw telephoned his Belgian opposite number yesterday to demand an explanation. He might start by asking the Home Office. The labyrinthine ways of its own mind have made it one of the most evasive departments in the government machine, unwilling to explain decisions, cite cases or "adumbrate a clear philosophy. Belgium insists that it never expels asylum-seekers and only orders out those with entry papers for another country. But there are strong suspicions that some police may be turning a blind eye to sharp practice.

The Home Office has been writing to Brussels since November, but with no satisfactory reply. The influx, meanwhile, has risen - from 202 in January to over 500 so far this month. Why are so many refugees gathering in Belgium, how have they arrived there and how have they been able to evade the passport controls at the Eurostar terminal? If Belgium is to escape the presumption of corruption, it must at least be guilty of extraordinary laxity. After the scandals of police incompetence in the paedophile murders, a presumption of honest co-operation may be over-generous.

The main culprit is not human but institutional. The Schengen agreement has ushered in a period of unparalleled buck-passing. There is a swelling crowd of refugees moving from country to country, seeking the weakest line of defence and most generous benefits. Interior ministers and police forces, instead of co-operating in stemming the inflow at source, are instead trying simply to clear their own patches. The inter-governmental committees dealing with crime and immigration are the fastest-growing bit of the EU bureaucracy. But they have yet to grasp the dimensions of this sordid shuttle in human misery.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

## IN THE DRIVING SEAT

The Germans rediscover the lure of the past

The industry which once proclaimed *Vorsprung durch Technik* is now determined, like a dodgy second hand car dealer, to put the clock back. German car manufacturers, having used technology to lend their products glamour are now inclined to revive tradition. The plan by Volkswagen to bring back its prestige marque, the Horch, should its bid for Rolls-Royce fall through, is an earnest of its intent to plunder the past for commercial advantage. Although the car industry may depend on novelty for much of its turnover, with the August ritual of new exchange plates fuelling sales, an increasingly discriminating market is making new demands. Consumers now look for a higher standard of coachwork to go with the modern transmission, a whiff of motoring's golden age as they struggle through the Hanger Lane gyratory.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

legitimate pride. Wilhelmine Germany may have become a byword for philistine militarism and Weimar for feeble decadence but the Germany of the future can only benefit from a revision of these myths which allows the nation to look back without anguish.

Weimar Germany was a centre of filmmaking to rival Hollywood. The long shadow cast by the skewed lenses of Riefenstahl and Goebbels has, however, made a proper focus on the past difficult but there is no reason why Germany should not recover something of its past prominence. The Bonn Republic, for all its economic achievements and civil stability, lacked the glamour of Weimar. But given how that glamour mutated, there are certainly reasons to be grateful for the dominance since 1948 of a provincial Rhenish conformity.

There are, however, more reasons now for encouraging Germans to celebrate the raffish as well as the Rhenish. A reunited Berlin has recaptured something of the Bohemian flavour of the Twenties. A greater degree of self-confidence across the country can only help Germans understand other nations. By appreciating anew why countries have an attachment to their native traditions, Germans might better understand the reluctance of some to travel on an autobahn without exit to another's Utopia.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### UK manufacturers face the challenge of world markets

From Professor John Chelson

Sir, There is some justification for Anatole Kaletsky's headline, "Strong pound carries the can for weak management" (March 20), but by his focus on labour costs he may encourage some management teams to continue to misdirect their efforts.

Labour costs were the main determinant of competitiveness in the first half of this century, but this is no longer the case. The typical cost structure in UK manufacturing is now: 60 per cent purchased materials; 25 per cent overhead; 15 per cent direct labour. To be cost-competitive, labour costs certainly have to be controlled; but effort should be concentrated on management of materials and other purchases.

However, cost-competitiveness alone will not enable UK manufacturers to maintain and increase their successes (such as contributing over 60 per cent of UK exports of goods and services). Faced with even greater hard-currency handicaps in the 1970s and 1980s, German and Japanese managements, as cited by Mr Kaletsky, combined their assault on total costs with enhancements to their products which could, if necessary, command a price premium in export markets.

The UK does have to learn to live with our harder currency, but for now and for the next decade the challenge for manufacturing management is to

work with their suppliers and the science base to translate the potential of new materials and processes into innovative, high-quality, exciting products that can be marketed around the world.

Yes, these products do have to be cost-competitive, and unit labour costs will continue to be important, but that is not our major weakness nor our major task.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CHELSON  
(Visiting Professor,  
City University Business School),  
3 Dura Den Close,  
Beckenham Place Park,  
Beckenham, Kent BR3 5BU,  
March 24.

From Mr Andrew Cook

Sir, As sterling continues soaring upwards, and the Chancellor just shrugs his shoulders, the prevailing opinion seems to be that it is up to manufacturers to cope one way or another with the strong currency, that they are merely whingeing and that it is inflation control which is of overriding importance.

As head of an engineering company employing 2,000 in the still partially industrial north, I regard this view as based on flawed logic and a lack of understanding of the facts.

The UK manufacturing economy lacks the raft of subsidies and anti-competitive practices (mostly of gov-

ernmental origin and design) that have protected German industry for four decades. It lacks the continental, domestic characteristics of the US. It is probably the most open in the world and is thus the most vulnerable to an overvalued currency.

In the course of my career I have faced up to three recessions. The first, in 1980-82, was needed: we had 20 per cent inflation then, and it took 20 per cent interest rates and the consequent over-valued pound to bring it down. The second, in 1990-92, was avoidable; but inflation had touched 10 per cent, so arguably a 10 per cent plus interest rate was necessary. The third is upon us now. But with inflation floating around 3 per cent, the battle against it is already won.

Here, in engineering, inflation is already stone dead. Our average selling prices are actually deflating, and we still pay modest wage increases which we finance through further productivity improvements. But there are limits to this leanness and fitness.

It is time for Gordon Brown to stop shirking his shoulders and face up to his responsibilities. The manufacturing sector is still a pillar of the economy. Remove it, and the roof comes crashing down.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW COOK  
(Chairman), William Cook Ltd,  
Parkway Avenue, Sheffield S9 4UL,  
March 24.

From the Principal Officer of Nacro

Sir, Professor Rock rightly points out that the relatives of homicide victims can be wounded by "careless talk about some deaths as relatively unimportant". However, the distorting effects of the mandatory life sentence for murder can have similarly distressing results.

To avoid the imposition of a life sentence there is a temptation for medical witnesses, judges and juries to conclude that diminished responsibility (reducing the conviction to manslaughter) is present in some cases where such a conclusion seems difficult to justify. This can cause great distress to the relatives of victims, who cannot understand why a manslaughter verdict has been reached.

In my opinion this reinforces the strength of the Lord Chief Justice's case against the mandatory life sentence for murder. It is significant that in the Australian State of Victoria, when the formerly mandatory life sentence became discretionary in 1986, the proportion of guilty pleas in murder cases increased.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL CAVADINO,  
Principal Officer,  
Nacro (National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders),  
169 Clapham Road, SW9 0PU.

### Sentences for murder

From Mr F. Gordon Burrett

Sir, Professor Paul Rock (letter, March 21) is right to draw attention to the distress of family and friends of a murder victim if the statutory life sentence for murder is ended. But the case for retaining it goes wider than this.

It is often said that the severity of the punishment does little to deter potential murderers from committing this crime. Certainly it may not always do so. However, the severity of a statutory life sentence expresses the deep abhorrence which society as a whole feels for the crime of murder.

Even the most hardened criminal will be influenced to some extent by this and will therefore hesitate before he kills another human being. This is the true deterrent. It operates through the attitude of society rather than the fear of punishment alone.

Light sentences have the opposite effect. They trivialise murder and therefore, I believe, encourage it.

Yours faithfully,  
F. BURRETT,  
The Athenaeum,  
Pall Mall, SW1Y 5ER,  
March 21.

### Church weddings

From the Reverend Andrew Evans

Sir, My experience of the Archbishop's Faculty Office is far more positive than Canon John Roberts's (letter, March 25). As assistant curate at St Andrew's Church, Castle Combe, I am constantly being approached by people from around the world who wish to be married there.

I wholeheartedly support the concept of Christian marriage, but when faced with comments like "We chose the church because it would provide such a pretty backdrop for our photographs", "The aisles are wider here", "It is so convenient to be able to walk to the reception afterwards" and "You can expect a generous donation", I give thanks for the Faculty Office and all its works.

Yours sincerely,  
ANDREW EVANS,  
2 Copper Meadow,  
Yatton Keynell,  
Nr Chippenham, Wiltshire SN14 7PZ,  
March 25.

From Prebendary Patrick Dearnley

Sir, The Reverend Patricia Newland (letter, March 25) advocates separating the legal and spiritual aspects of

church marriage. Such a move could ease the complexities brought about by the greatly increased incidence of divorce and cohabitation, but an additional dimension would have to be faced - the financial factor.

Were the Church to relinquish the legal rights of registration of marriages it would surely be necessary also to waive the current fees of £122 per wedding (plus banns and certificates where required). Locally agreed tariffs for organist, choir, bells, heating, floral arrangements, etc. would of course not be affected. This might well be logically and theologically sensible, since marriage is in a real sense a "sacramental ministry of grace" and there is no comparable fee for administering the sacrament of baptism.

Such a decision would cost the Church of England annually several millions of pounds, far in excess of other occasional income derived, for example, from fees for brass-rubbing. And this, as a hard-headed Yorkshire incumbent once remarked to me, could prove the rub.

Yours in the Faith,  
PATRICK DEARNLEY,  
St John's Vicarage,  
16 Adelaide Terrace,  
Waterloo, Liverpool L22 8QD,  
March 25.

From Mr Ron Footer

Sir, The 200 words that every seven-year-old should know include "said", the spelling of which I hope will not be confused with that of bed and bread, that sound the same. Also included is the even simpler word "go" - its spelling not to be confused with that of beau, dough, low, owe and toe.

But how will learners know which version to use when they meet new words with these sounds? This is why it takes so much time and money to teach English spelling.

In countries such as Italy, where spelling is logical, once children have learnt the equivalents of "said" and "go" they are also ready for all words with these sounds in them. The result is that children are able to read and spell most words one year after beginning school. Here children can take as long as ten years to achieve this adult standard.

English is an international language; do we not owe it to the world, as well as to our own learners, to take the confusion out of English spelling?

Yours sincerely,  
RON FOOTER  
(Member, Simplify Spelling Society),  
15 East Woodside, Bexley DA5 3PC,  
ron.footer@btinternet.com  
March 21.

### French to the fore in diplomatic talk

From Mr B. D. S. Lock

Sir, Mr Blair is to be congratulated on his addressing the French National Assembly in its mother tongue (report and leading article, March 25).

However, the event recalls to mind the passage in the memoirs of Richard Rush, Envoy Extraordinary from the United States of America, 1817-25, describing the dinner at Lord Castle-reegh's house on January 20, 1818, attended by the French, Austrian and Portuguese ambassadors and by most members of the British Cabinet.

The general topics related to France, and French society. The foreigners spoke English; nevertheless, the conversation was nearly all in French. This was not only the case when the English addressed the foreigners, but in speaking to each other... There is scarcely a well educated person in England who does not speak French, whilst thousands among the best educated in France are ignorant of English.

I wonder which was the last British Cabinet which could converse in French.

Yours faithfully,  
B. D. S. LOCK,  
16 Morpeth Mansions,  
Morpeth Terrace, SWIP 1ER,  
March 25.

From Mr F. A. Lawton

Sir, What with advertisements for ambassadors (report and leading article, March 23) and the Prime Minister addressing the National Assembly in France, the traditional Foreign Office is clearly under threat. Today's leader, "Blair in French", describes French as "the choice of the diplomat". Perhaps so, but as far as UK diplomacy is concerned, it has been a reluctant choice.

Certainly in 1966, when I had some minor involvement in the drafting of a document for an international convention, the UK representatives were still being required by the Foreign Office to lodge a formal protest - not against French being the determining language in the event of any difference arising between the four "official" versions (French, German, English and Spanish), but against the final phrase (in the French text): "selon [in accordance with] l'usage diplomatique habituel". It was impressed upon us that this was something that HM Government would never concede.

The protest was duly lodged, as doubtless it had been lodged on every such occasion since the days of Talleyrand and the Congress of Vienna. Nobody took any notice and the words still found their way into the final version.

Yours faithfully,  
TONY LAWTON,  
The Old Rectory,  
Skelton, York YO3 6XY,  
March 25.

From Sir Reginald Hibbert

Sir, The Prime Minister has been much complimented on his French accent. When Lord Bertie of Thame, Ambassador at Paris from 1905 to 1918, was asked why he made no effort to improve his deplorable accent, although his French was otherwise fluent and correct, he replied: "C'est pour monney que j'ay la forte anglaise derriere moi".

Times have changed.

Yours faithfully,  
REGINALD HIBBERT  
(Ambassador to France, 1979-82),  
Frondey, Pennal,  
Nr Machynlleth, Powys SY20 9JX,  
March 25.

### Roadside daffodils

From the President of the Botanical Society of the British Isles

Sir, The small and dainty wild daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* is a joyous sight at this time of year, and is widespread as a native in south and west England.

I tolerate the larger cultivars in gardens, although I can hardly wait to mow off their decaying leaves. But I abhor the seemingly unstoppable flood of daffodils on roadside verges. They appear in massed battalions or straggly lines on the outskirts of towns and villages, or more insidiously as small bunches or singles all over the place. They are all totally inappropriate, out of scale and colour.

The countryside, tinted now with purple alder, soft cuskings of hazel and willow, definitely does not need this creeping suburbanisation.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID FEARMAN,  
President,  
Botanical Society of the British Isles,  
The Old Rectory, Frome St Quintin,  
Dorchester, Dorset DT2 0HF,  
March 24.

### Cool Sixties

From Mr Ric Cooper

Sir, There is nothing remotely new about "Cool Britannia". It was the title of a track on the album *Gorilla*, released in 1968 by the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band. We can all thank Viv Stanshall and Neil Innes for it. Or not, as the case may be.

Yours faithfully,  
RIC COOPER,  
Hermiteage House,  
Farleigh Hungerford,  
Somerset BA5 6RW,  
March 25.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk







OBITUARIES

MONSIGNOR ALFRED GILBEY

Monsignor Alfred Gilbey, Roman Catholic chaplain to Cambridge University, 1932-65, died yesterday aged 96. He was born on July 13, 1901.

Monsignor Alfred Gilbey was the last Roman Catholic priest of his kind and had been for a considerable time. The phrase "living fossil" could have been coined with him in mind, and it was an impression later enhanced by his great age. But to his admirers, he might better have been described as an ambassador from the past.

Every morning, until a few months ago, he went from his home in the Travellers' Club to the Brompton Oratory to say a 7.30 mass in St Wilfred's Chapel according to the old Tridentine rite. It was a measure of his status and diplomacy that the Vatican had granted him the rare privilege of permission to use that rite whenever he wished, while others (such as Archbishop Lefebvre) were excommunicated for doing so without consent.

this elegance was more the expression of a love of order and tradition than a vanity.

For Gilbey's attitudes, too, were those of another era. He held his beliefs with an absolute conviction, and the result was a grand and magnetic serenity which attracted many from a more uncertain era.

Although he occupied no hierarchical position in the Roman Catholic Church, having been ordained "upon his patrimony" (that is, without being under a particular bishop), Alfred Gilbey was highly influential, particularly among the Catholic upper classes and among a generation of Cambridge undergraduates. During his 35 years as chaplain to the university there he instructed around 170 converts. His widely distributed book *We Believe* (1979), an elegant and highly approachable distillation of the Catholic faith, is based on recordings that one undergraduate made of his own instruction. Gilbey insisted that the book be published anonymously, but it was widely known that he was the author.

Because he moved in the loftiest circles and spent much of his time in London's clubland, it was possible to see Gilbey as a snob. But those who knew him well, or who had come under his influence, recognised that he was a deeply pastoral man who rooted his life in prayer. It was inevitable that his old-world values sometimes clashed with those of the modern era. The great changes in Catholicism which followed the Vatican Council must have caused him private pain. But he remained an absolutely faithful son of the Church, convinced that even when he could not understand why it moved in a particular direction, it must be right.



temporary values centered on his resignation from his post of chaplain of Cambridge University in 1965, when it was decreed that women be allowed into Fisher House, the chaplaincy headquarters. This led to accusations of misogyny. It was true that Gilbey would not countenance this change (he once said "I am totally opposed to change of all sorts on principle"), but as reasons for his inflexibility he cited the lack of space there and the existing provision for female undergraduates.

He was often puzzled to find hostility to his rejection of the concepts of equality and democracy. This was because to Gilbey it was self-evident that different groups of people had different roles to play, and he could see nothing wrong with that. It certainly did not imply for him that one group was of less value than another. He inherited the values of that world from his father, together with a love of hunting and of heraldry, while from his mother he acquired both his faith and what he called his "Spanish toughness". Following her wishes, he was educated by the Jesuits of Beaumont.

He decided to become a priest while still at school but first went up to Trinity College, Cambridge to read history. In 1924, having acquired a pass degree, he went to Rome to study for the priesthood at the Beda college. Gilbey was ordained in the private chapel of his childhood home, Mark Hall in Essex. His private means allowed him to enjoy considerable independence — he did not require maintenance in the form of employment from a bishop, for example — but he was discouraged from foxhunting. He took to beagling as a substitute, a habit which persisted into his nineties.

read history. In 1924, having acquired a pass degree, he went to Rome to study for the priesthood at the Beda college.

After a brief spell as secretary to the Bishop of Brentwood, he took up the post of chaplain at Fisher House in 1932. He used his own money to finance the chaplaincy, and had Fisher House furnished to the high standards of a gentlemen's club. He was delighted to receive full marks for keeping an excellent table and cellar, as well as a tick for believing in God, in William Hamilton-Dalrymple's *Good Priest Guide*. Gilbey loved Cambridge, and the feeling was mutual for three decades.

After he resigned as chaplain, Monsignor Gilbey (he was given the courtesy title by Rome in 1950) found himself homeless. But he was soon offered a permanent home at the Travellers' Club, and it was from there that he began to develop a new ministry, this time to his legions of friends. His venerable, slightly stooped figure soon became one of the sights of Pall Mall.

Despite moving in such worldly circles, there was a certain asceticism to Alfred Gilbey. He might counsel a dinner companion against ordering a certain dish and then choose it for himself, as a gentle exercise in self-mortification. He was also more practical than his romantic exterior suggested. He

once found an unattended baby in a pram outside a pub, went in to locate the mother, and did not leave before he had given her some money to help look after it.

Gilbey remained impressively active well into his nineties. In 1995 he toured the United States from coast to coast to promote a new edition of *We Believe*, and gave an interview to Mother Angelica, "the television nun". He also attended a remarkable number of funerals and memorial services, which were given instant kudos by a Court and Social page announcement that "Monsignor Gilbey was robbed and in the sanctuary".

In 1993 a collection of his favourite literary passages was published, under the title *The Commonplace Book of Monsignor Alfred Gilbey*. Gilbey described the binding theme of the book as being "keeping the jungle at bay". The collection, which includes extracts from Belloc, Santayana and Shakespeare, is a celebration of Gilbey's philosophy and of a world which has all but passed away. But he made clear in his preface that "anyone who wants to know what I think seriously about almost any subject has only to turn to *We Believe* by a Priest".

In 1993 Gilbey was caused considerable pain by the public family embarrassment occasioned by the association of his great-nephew, James Gilbey, with the Princess of Wales. This was compounded by a rumour started by Anthony Gilbey that the Princess was receiving instruction from the Monsignor, which Gilbey dismissed as "the most frightful piffle".

Alfred Gilbey outlived all of his siblings. He is survived by several cousins (including Sir Walter Gilbey) as well as nephews and nieces of various degrees of kinship.

EDITH RUDINGER GRAY

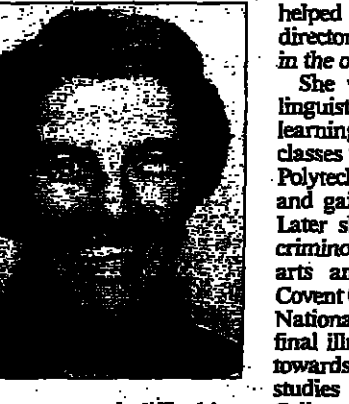
Edith Rudinger Gray, sometime publications editor at the Consumers' Association, died on February 28 aged 72. She was born on March 2, 1925.

EDITH RUDINGER GRAY was a pioneer of the approachable and rigorously verified consumer information that made *Which?* and its sister publications so successful and won them their reputation for independence. Later she became the dynamic force behind Consumer Publications, the association's book publishing operation, on which she set her stamp.

Not only did she originate the ideas for books, she found and commissioned specialists to write them and then had the texts read by other specialists, before editing and reworking them herself. The resulting publications were always clear, accurate and free from ambiguity.

*The Law for Consumers and The Law for Motorists* were the first titles she produced, followed by *Wills and Probate*, *The Legal Side of Buying a House*, *What to do After an Accident*, *What to do When Someone Dies* and many more.

It was typical of her generosity of spirit that she worked hard to demystify the institutions of everyday life that often bewilder people caught up in them. She felt strongly that intelligible information could help them to take control when



they encountered difficulties. She herself was uninterested in material acquisitions and, despite her work for the Consumers' Association, was not herself a conspicuously successful consumer: she was once conned by a cowboy carpet salesman at the door.

Edith Rudinger was born in Vienna of Czech parents. She came to England from Czechoslovakia in 1939 as a child refugee under the auspices of the Society of Friends. She did wartime service in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, took a degree in philosophy at St Andrews University, and married Hugh Gray in 1954.

At that time she was a senior executive of World University Service, which helps displaced people and refugees into education and literacy programmes in this country and overseas. She became general secretary but left in 1957 to join the fledgling Consumers' Association as secretary to the council of management; she

helped to choose its first director and so began a career in the organisation.

She was an accomplished linguist and a woman of learning. She took evening classes for a law degree at the Polytechnic of Central London and gained her LLB in 1978. Later she took a diploma in criminology. She loved the arts and was a friend of Covent Garden and of English National Opera. Until her final illness she was working towards a degree in opera studies at the Rose Bruford College.

She loved Venice: she and her husband had a small apartment there. Her knowledge of its history made her a fascinating guide for friends. She was also an active supporter of the Venice in Peril Fund.

When Hugh Gray became Labour MP for Yarmouth in 1966, Edith gave him every support and was active in the party. Later, when he became general secretary of the Theosophical Society, they made a number of extended visits to India. There Edith taught various subjects to local children and took lessons in Tamil.

Ill-health caused her a great deal of discomfort, but she never complained. Instead she used her knowledge and empathy to help family, friends and neighbours, and to support many good causes and institutions. She is survived by her husband Hugh and her sister, Susanna.

Daniel Massey, actor, died on March 25 of heart failure, aged 64. He was born in London on October 10, 1933.

DANIEL MASSEY seemed to have all the advantages of being born with the theatrical equivalent of a silver spoon in his mouth. It is no denigration of his skills as an actor to say that being the son of Raymond Massey and Adrienne Allen, and the godson of Noel Coward, helped him make his way in the theatre.

Although he strongly resembled his father, and had his resonant voice and his piercing gaze, he never had to undergo "pale reflection" comparisons. In fact, for an actor emerging in the 1950s, Massey was definitely of the wrong type. The fashionable young British actor was more of the type of Albert Finney and Tom Courtenay — rough-hewn, implying if not necessarily possessing a working-class background. Massey never looked or behaved like anything other than a young aristocrat. From his first public performances, as a Cambridge undergraduate, eye-catching figure.

But while his education at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, was evident in his voice and bearing, he had from the beginning another advantage. His father was originally Canadian, becoming a naturalised American in 1944; both his parents worked frequently on both sides of the

DANIEL MASSEY

Atlantic. Consequently, Massey was perfectly capable of playing Americans as well as Britons, in days when that was not so regular an accomplishment. Indeed, the first role in which he made much individual impression was American, as Angier Duke in *The Happiest Millionaire* — his first appearance in London, in 1957. (He had made his first appearance on Broadway earlier that year.)

Given his later career as a modern classical actor, it was often forgotten that he began in effect as a song-and-dance man: first in Cambridge with the Footlights, then professionally, and more spectacularly, in the London revue *Living for Pleasure* and the Wolf Mankowitz musical *Make Me An Offer* (1959). Later, on Broadway, he played leading roles in two more musicals, the stage version of *Gigi* and *She Loves Me*, so there was no justification for the universal surprise when he appeared in the first British production of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies* in 1987 and sang his part with a tuneful voice and great aplomb.

Given his looks and the success of his father in films, it is surprising that Massey did not work more and to better effect in the cinema. He made his first film in 1957, *Girls at Sea* — very much as the title implies — and his only really important role on screen was as his godfather, Noel Coward, in *Star* (1968), the biographical film in which Julie Andrews played Gertrude Lawrence. His casting was apparently at the suggestion of Coward himself, and whether or not Coward coached him, Massey had had many opportunities to observe his man at close quarters.

Although he was unexpectedly convincing in the role, despite having little or no physical or psychological resemblance to Coward, it led to a few more roles, such as Leicester to Glenda Jackson's Queen Elizabeth in *Mary Queen of Scots* (1971). This was probably because he was, or was to become, a very theatrical stage actor. The succession of roles he played



in the 1960s and 1970s almost required this. He was often at the Haymarket, in the sort of revival of the theatre specialised in as Charles Surridge in *The School for Scandal*, Captain Absolute in *The Rivals* and Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Out of town he had many roles such as Athos in *The Three Musketeers*, Mark Antony in *Julius Caesar* and Tosenbach in *Three Sisters*. Though varied enough, these were all costume parts requiring a certain style, which was perceived as non-naturalistic. They all suggested acting with a capital "A".

In New York, admittedly, he was allowed to play in musicals, but in London the most substantial modern role he had was the hero in Neil Simon's *Barefoot in the Park*, which, as Robert Redford remarked after playing the role on Broadway and in the film, made an actor get tired of standing at the door at the end of a play, hat in hand, saying "You're wild, you're wacky, you're wonderful... and I love you!" It was perhaps an excess-

sively squeaky-clean job, but someone had to do it. Massey looked and sounded perfect, but no one could say that the part stretched him. On stage he was a star, but even when he was pushing 40 he was still perceived mainly as a handsome young man who could apparently act a little.

This he found irksome, and he did all he could to break out. He began the process in 1977 with a fine *Rosmersholm*, starring Claire Bloom. He then chose one of the best routes to being taken seriously, joining one of the major national companies for a season. In fact, he played with both the National Theatre, 1978-81, and the Royal Shakespeare Company, 1983-84. At the National he had one of his greatest triumphs in *Man and Superman*, played complete with the "Don Juan in Hell" act to make a taxing but spectacular evening. He also appeared there in Pinter's *Betrayal*, Hampton's translation of *Don Juan Comes Back from the War*, and Shaw's *The Philanderer*, but it was *Man and Superman* which won

him the SWET Award and established him definitively as a major actor rather than a belated matinee idol.

At the RSC he played the Duke in *Measure for Measure*, Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night*, and Nikolai in Stephen Pogliakoff's *Breaking the Silence*. He returned in 1991 as Don Alonzo in *Love's Labour's Lost*.

At this period he also took the bold step of appearing in *Intimate Contact*, a television film drama about the repercussions when a respectable businessman is diagnosed as suffering from Aids after an ill-advised sexual encounter on a trip to the East. It was typical of him to take on such a subject when most actors were steering clear of anything relating to Aids. Also on television, he had a lot of fun with the role of the Major in Molly Keane's *Good Behaviour*, and although most of his other work at this time was decidedly heavyweight he could also take time out to play (and sing) the role of the ex-hooper turned politician in *Sondheim's musical Follies*, and to appear as Professor Higgins in *My Fair Lady*.

In the early 1990s he was diagnosed as having Hodgkin's Disease, and began to spend periods in hospital undergoing chemotherapy. His last stage appearance was in 1995, playing the conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler in Ronald Harwood's play *Taking Sides* at the Criterion. Physically he was much changed, having lost most of his hair through the chemotherapy, and otherwise aged considerably. But this all gave him a startling resemblance to the embattled 60-year-old Furtwängler, called upon to account for his behaviour during the Nazi era. The performance was one of Massey's finest, giving him a critical triumph on Broadway too.

Daniel Massey was married three times. The first two marriages, to the actresses Adrienne Corri and Penelope Wilton, were dissolved. His third wife, Lindy, Penelope Wilton's younger sister, survives him, along with Alice, his daughter by his second marriage.

No evidence incriminated Sir Roger and at the end of the inquiry it was concluded that he was not a Soviet agent. But that view was challenged by some of those concerned. In July, 1974, Lord Burke Trend, former Secretary of the Cabinet, began a year-long examination of the case.

Mrs Thatcher said Mr Pincher's book was wrong to claim that Lord Trend decided there was a strong prima facie case showing MI5 had been penetrated over many years by someone other than Professor Blunt and named Sir Roger as the likely culprit...

PERSONAL COLUMN

FOR SALE
A BRITISH...
A BRITISH...
GRAND HOME...
THE TIMES...
OVERSEAS TRAVEL

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY
DELTA
Regular Direct Flights
ZURICH EXPRESS
Regular Direct Flights
FLIGHTWISE
FARESAVERS

FLIGHTSEEKERS
ALICANTE...
FLIGHTSEATS
JETLINE
AIRLINK WORLDWIDE

FLIGHTWISE
FARESAVERS
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS
CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS
The British Kidney Patient Association

ON THIS DAY
Mrs Thatcher says inquiries failed to incriminate Hollis
By PETER HENNESSY, CRAIG SETON AND STEWART TENDLER

THE Prime Minister yesterday cleared Sir Roger Hollis, the former head of MI5, of working as a Soviet agent within Britain's counter-espionage service. He had, she told the Commons, been investigated like many others in the aftermath of the Philby affair but two inquiries had failed to incriminate him. In a statement prompted by a series of reports in the Daily Mail this week, written by Mr Chapman Pincher, Mrs Thatcher said the record of the security services had improved since the days of Philby. Mr Pincher's articles, based on his book, *Their Trade is Treachery*, published yesterday, have mentioned other figures apart from Sir Roger but Mrs Thatcher, strongly critical of the book, said she would not comment on those since interpretations might be placed on who was mentioned and who was not. Mrs Thatcher said that the book contained material which was "inaccurate or distorted". She confirmed her comments to Sir Roger, Mr Philby and Professor Anthony Blunt, in

referring to Professor Blunt she implied that he might have been a far more important spy than had been admitted by Whitehall... As the Commons listened in silence, she went on: "Apart from the main allegation I do not propose to comment on the other allegations and insinuations in this book. Nor can I say which allegations are unsubstantiated or untrue, as some certainly are, since by doing so I should implicitly be indicating those which were suspected of having a degree of substance." Turning to the case of Sir Roger, Mrs Thatcher, who had revealed Professor Blunt

as a spy in 1979, said: "The case for investigating Sir Roger Hollis was based on certain leads which suggested, but did not prove, that there had been a Russian agent at a relatively senior level in British counter-intelligence in the last years of the war." The leads did not identify Sir Roger and could have applied to Mr Philby or Professor Blunt. But he was investigated since he fitted some of the leads. Sir Roger was investigated after his retirement in 1965. Mrs Thatcher said: it did not conclusively prove his innocence; indeed it is very often impossible to prove innocence: that is why in our law the burden of proof is placed upon those who seek to establish guilt." No evidence incriminated Sir Roger and at the end of the inquiry it was concluded that he was not a Soviet agent. But that view was challenged by some of those concerned. In July, 1974, Lord Burke Trend, former Secretary of the Cabinet, began a year-long examination of the case. Mrs Thatcher said Mr Pincher's book was wrong to claim that Lord Trend decided there was a strong prima facie case showing MI5 had been penetrated over many years by someone other than Professor Blunt and named Sir Roger as the likely culprit...



NEWS

Blair unveils welfare blueprint

An assault against the workshy and benefit fraudsters, and the first steps towards compulsory second pensions were heralded by the Government in its long-awaited blueprint for welfare reform.

Tony Blair placed new duties on the Government and every British citizen in an ambitious attempt to change the culture of the welfare state from dependency and the passive payment of benefits to one where people are required to take work or training where they can.

Gun boys 'should get life'

The husband of an Arkansas teacher who died saving a student from a hail of bullets demanded that Andrew Golden, 11, and Mitchell Johnson, 13, the two boys charged in the killing should spend the rest of their lives in jail.

Paedophile watch

Scotland Yard is to put convicted child killer and paedophile Sidney Cooke under 24-hour surveillance when he is released from prison next month.

Murdoch's source

Rupert Murdoch used information obtained directly from Tony Blair to decide not to make a higher bid for a controlling stake in Silvio Berlusconi's Mediaset TV network in Italy.

Jews snub Cook

In the wake of Robin Cook's controversial tour of Israel, Britain's Jewish community has "postponed" a dinner at which the Foreign Secretary was to be the guest of honour.

Chief sparks race row

The Director General of the Prison Service was involved in a race row after claiming that physical differences meant Afro Caribbeans were more likely to suffocate while being restrained.

Parking settlement

After 27 court hearings and more than £100,000 in costs, a judge ended a ten-year dispute between neighbours over parking in a quiet cul-de-sac.

Vital minutes lost

The Stephen Lawrence judicial inquiry heard a police officer failed to pass on a description of the killer to colleagues in the vital minutes after the murder.

Dolphins help boy, 8, speak

Nikki Brice, eight, who suffered brain damage at birth has spoken his first words after making friends with a dolphin at Miami's Sea-quarium. After eight years of silence, his mother Tabitha was astonished to hear him say "in" as she helped him out of the pool.

Bouquets for Brown

Gordon Brown has the highest approval ratings for any Chancellor for 20 years. He is more highly rated than Tony Blair among the middle classes.

Equal pay victory

In a landmark decision a tribunal backed a girls' school mistress who was discriminated against because she was paid £7,000 less than her counterpart at a boys' school.

Karate kids cheated

Richard Millin, a bogus karate instructor who made more than £14,000 from coaching children, has been jailed. The children were devastated when they learnt that their black belts were worthless.

Yeltsin keeps mum

President Yeltsin kept Russia guessing as to what possessed him to sack his entire Government this week.

Indonesian tragedy

A malaria epidemic and starvation in drought-stricken Irian Jaya have killed at least 6,000 people in the Indonesian province. An aid worker said "more are dying every day".

Palace inspected

UN weapons inspectors conducted a trouble-free inspection of one of President Saddam's palaces in the first test of the deal that averted a Gulf war.



A rare white rhino, part of a group of three to go on show at Blair Drummond Safari Park, near Stirling, savours a first outing.

BUSINESS

Next: The clothing retailer that became a stock market star after narrowly escaping collapse at the beginning of 1990s fell out of favour with investors again after it issued a profits warning.

Orange: British Aerospace gave itself extra firepower in the shake-up of its defence industries when it sold the bulk of its 21 per cent stake in Orange, the mobile phone group, for £764 million.

Economy: Warren Buffett's foray into the silver market sent Britain's trade deficit with non-EC countries ballooning to record levels in February.

Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell to 5905.6. Sterling rose from 107.7 to 108.1 after a rise to \$1.6857 and to DM3.0734.

SPORT

Football: The mood of optimism that surrounded England's World Cup hopes has suddenly been deflated by two poor performances in warm-up matches.

Cricket: Adam Hoolioke, who will captain England in the one-day international series against West Indies, has said that former captain Michael Atherton will have to earn his place in the side.

Rowing: Henrik Nilsson, a member of the Oxford crew, will become the first Swede to take part in the University Boat Race tomorrow.

Rugby union: Zinzan Brooke, the former New Zealand No 8, will coach struggling Harlequins for their remaining seven games this season.

Week in the arts

Richard Morrison ponders the eternal riddle of opera houses: "Do they drive their inhabitants mad, or do you have to be mad to work there in the first place?"

Lost in space: From its triumph at the Edinburgh Festival to the rock musical Saucy Jack and the Space Vikings travels through cyberspace to the West End.

Pop 1: Girl Power has made little real impression on the pop music industry, says Caitlin Moran, to judge by the near-total male domination of the Top Ten.

Pop 2: David Sinclair reviews the week's top pop album releases and is delighted to report that Pulp and Jarvis Cocker have recovered from the death of Britpop.

Inner milkmaid

There is something about an English girl that can't resist a creepy crawly - of the six-legged variety, that is. Something to do with our inborn love of the countryside, says Jane Shilling.

Masked man: The Irish actor Gabriel Byrne has carved his own swath through Hollywood. Interview by Moira Petty.

Drama and crisis: Running BBC Television's drama department is a poisoned chalice. This is why Gub Neal, the co-creator of ITV's police series, Cracker, twice turned down the job.

Baring all: Imagine seeing your boss naked and, even more terrible, he or she sees you naked, too. If that's your worst nightmare, think again: imagine having to work with them the next day.

In print: Cynthia Kee could not find a publisher for her novel, so she took the DIY route.

Good citizens: Bernard Crick says schools have a duty to educate children to take an active part in public life.

The fault lies not in gun ownership, as we heard famously yesterday, but in the darkest urges of the human spirit - New York Post.

RADIO AND TV

Preview: All you wanted to know about Charles Darwin and the survival of the fittest. Evolution Weekend (BBC2, 8pm) Review: Paul Hoggart on unarmoured heroes across the water.

OPINION

Prudence and purpose Mr Blair has shamelessly stolen many Tory policies. He may end up purloining the one he affected most to despise.

The Low Country Belgium insists that it never expects asylum-seekers and only orders out those with entry papers for another country. But there are strong suspicions that some police may be turning a blind eye to sharp practice.

In the driving seat The industry which once proclaimed Vorsprung durch Technik is now determined, like a dodgy second-hand car dealer, to put the clock back.

MATTHEW PARRIS Brighton's ruined West Pier, that "drowning chandelier" of Hanif Kureishi's imagination, was the most beautiful thing. And now they want to destroy it. Yes, destroy, for a ruin has the soul of a ruin, and to refurbish a ruin kills what there was and replaces it with something new. New and dead.

JOHN LLOYD Frank Field has believed for some time that a fundamental revision of the welfare state must first be given a philosophical and moral basis, and that he has done.

TIM CONGDON New Labour wants to harness the efficiency of capitalism in the service of greater social equality. But it must remember that "both capital and income can go down as well as up, and you may not get back the amount invested".

Monsignor Alfred Gibbey, Roman Catholic priest; Daniel Massey, actor; Edith Rudinger Gray, consumer publications editor.

UK manufacturing; diplomatic use of French; murder sentences; Middle East peace; church weddings; roadside daffodils; Cool Britannia.

TOMORROW IN THE SATURDAY TIMES

BEST FOR PROPERTY For sale where Julie Andrews lived

BEST FOR INTERIORS Cocktail cabinets for the Nineties



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,750

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-26 indicating starting positions for clues.

ACROSS and DOWN clues for the crossword puzzle, including 'The sort of reproduction expected of happy couples?' and 'Gift that eventually benefits an author?'.

Latest Road and Weather conditions, Weather by Fax, World City Weather, and Motoring information.

Car reports by fax, listing car models and prices.

HIGHEST & LOWEST table showing temperature extremes across various locations.

NEWSPAPERS RECYCLING logo and other small notices.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY table showing weather conditions and temperatures across various UK cities.

AROUND THE WORLD table showing weather conditions and temperatures across various international locations.

Weather map of the UK showing pressure systems, fronts, and wind directions.

Changes to chart below from noon: low A will run NE and deepen. Low B will move E and fill. High C will drift with little change. High D will sink SE, displacing low E.



# THE TIMES

2

INSIDE SECTION  
**2**  
TODAY



**BUSINESS**  
Anatole Kaletsky on Field guide to Blair's 'third way'  
PAGE 33



**ENTERPRISE**  
What Brown's Budget did for small businesses  
PAGES 36-37



**SPORT**  
Henman hoping to take final step into the big time  
PAGES 50-56

**TELEVISION AND RADIO**  
PAGES 54, 55

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY MARCH 27 1998

## Silver Buffett sends Britain's deficit ballooning

By ALASDAIR MURRAY  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

WARREN BUFFETT'S foray into the silver market sent Britain's trade deficit with non-EU countries ballooning to record levels in February. The billionaire investor, dubbed the "Sage of Omaha", is believed to have shipped huge quantities of the metal to London from the US and Switzerland during the early part of the year, boosting imports in February by about £200 million. Last month Mr Buffett revealed that he had acquired about 20 per cent of the world's silver supply, sending prices to a ten-year high.

The Office for National Statistics said the deficit with non-EU countries widened from £879 million to £1.64 billion in February. Silver imports in January and February totalled 2.7 million kilos, about 15 per cent of the world's total annual supply, and compared with 3.2 million kilos for all of last year.

However, even excluding the erratic elements the non-EU deficit rose from £670 million to £992 million, which economists blamed on the strength of the pound and a collapse in exports to the troubled economies of Asia. A small improvement in the January global trade deficit, which narrowed from £1.3 billion to £1.1 billion, was dismissed by the City as merely a temporary respite.

Exports to South Korea fell 50 per cent to £50 million during the first two months of the year, while imports from there rose by a quarter. Overall, non-EU import volumes have risen 3.5 per cent in the past

quarter compared with an increase of just 1.5 per cent in exports.

The foreign exchanges, however, ignored the worsening trade position to send the pound to a nine-year high. Sterling's trade-weighted index climbed 0.4 to 108.1 while the pound also hit an eight-month peak against the mark, before easing slightly to close at DM3.0734, a rise of one penny on the day. Sterling also climbed nearly a cent against

the dollar to \$1.6857. Dealers said the latest rise was prompted by William Butler, regarded as one of the more hawkish members of the Monetary Policy Committee. He said a decline in the value of the pound would pose a significant inflation risk.

Senior Treasury officials also emphasised again yesterday that the Government would not take action to relieve the pressure of the strong pound on exporters. John Gieve, director of budget and public finances, told the Treasury Select Committee: "We don't want to get into the business of changing fiscal policy to see the exchange rate over the short term. That way lies disaster."

Christopher Kelly, head of economic briefing and analysis, added that the Government's policies left

open the possibility of a recession in the manufacturing sector.

Fresh evidence of the fragility of the manufacturing sector emerged in the March Confederation of British Industry industrial trends survey, which showed demand falling to its lowest level since November and export order books at extremely weak levels. There was better news on the inflation front, however, with price expectations falling to their lowest levels on record.

In contrast, the relative strength of the consumer sector was demonstrated by the latest British Bankers' Association mortgage data. The value and number of new approvals jumped, pointing to a pick-up in lending after a slow start to the year.

Commentary, page 31

**BUSINESS TODAY**

**STOCK MARKET**

FTSE 100	5905.8	(-62.2)
Yield	3.7%	
FTSE All share	2771.23	(-24.52)
Nikkei	16980.82	(+322.28)
New York		
Dow Jones	8826.43	(-37.37)
S&P Composite	1098.42	(-3.50)

**US RATE**

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	102 3/4%	(102 3/4%)
Yield	5.83%	(5.94%)

**EURO AREA MONEY**

3-mth Interbank	7 1/2%	(7 1/2%)
Life long rate	100%	(100%)

**STERLING**

New York	1.6852*	(1.6755)
London	1.6872	(1.6783)
DM	3.0762	(3.0619)
FF	10.3105	(10.3820)
SF	2.5115	(2.5027)
Yen	217.38	(216.12)
£ Index	108.1	(107.7)

**US \$ \$**

London	1.8224*	(1.8285)
DM	5.1085*	(5.1210)
FF	1.4899*	(1.4925)
Yen	128.87*	(128.95)
£ Index	108.7	(108.5)

Tokyo close Yen 128.87

**COMMODITY**

Brent 15-day (Jun)	\$15.60	(\$15.40)
--------------------	---------	-----------

London close \$300.45 (\$298.55)  
\* denotes midday trading price

## Next star wanes in wake of profit warning

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

NEXT, the clothing retailer that became a stock market star after narrowly escaping collapse at the beginning of 1990s, fell dramatically out of favour with investors again yesterday after it issued a profits warning.

Next shares plunged 200p at one point, closing down 173 1/2p at 54 1/2p. The company said purchasing mistakes made last year cannot be rectified until October at the earliest.

Analysts were sceptical that the problems could be solved even then: "It is extremely rare that a fashion business that goes wrong recovers in just one season," said Robert Miller, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. "We won't really know the scale of the problems until at least the Christmas trading season."

The fall in Next's share price ignited speculation that Great Universal Stores, chaired by

classic items after rattled buyers became reluctant to commit themselves.

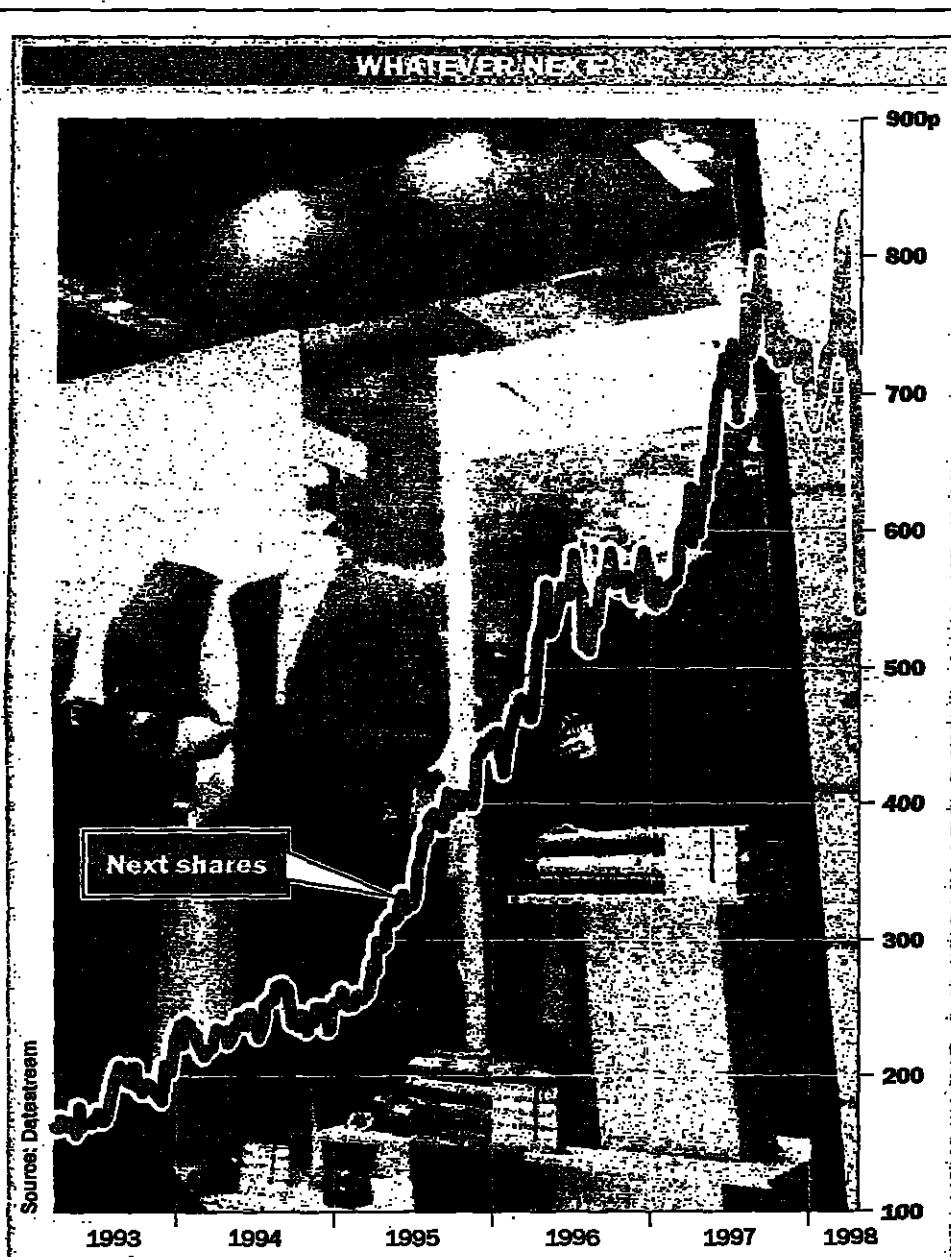
Mr Jones, who denied rumours that he is ill and said he would stay with Next for at least the next three years, said that the buyers had been concerned not to repeat the mistakes made last year when overstocking led to a huge January sale. He said that tighter control would now be kept on buying and that more classics would be included in coming collections. "If menswear was suffering I'd be a far more worried person than I am now. The problem is serious, but it is quite simple," he said.

Tony Shiret, a CSFB analyst, said: "The problem with having all that stock and an enormous sale is that it destabilises the business. Customers come to expect big discounts. I think it is highly unlikely that they will get it right in the autumn. It will be all over the place for the rest of the year."

News of the 1.5 per cent fall in sales in the first seven months of this financial year, which comes despite a 12 per cent increase in sales space, completely overshadowed Next's results, which showed an increase in pre-tax profit from £158.8 million to £184 million. Earnings per share rose 5p to 36.5p and the final dividend has been increased from 10p to 12p, making a total of 18p (15p).

Next said first-half profits would be down, but it hoped that a recovery would begin in the second half. Mr Shiret has downgraded his forecast for pre-tax profit this year from £203 million to £172 million. NatWest moved down from £215 million to £174 million.

Mr Jones, who was behind the 1988 boardroom coup that ended founder George Davies' reign at Next, said: "People had become a bit complacent. Most of our management team have not experienced a bad season. They have now realised that they do not have a divine right to be successful."



**Lonrho hit by Hondo collapse**  
By JASON NISSÉ

LONRHO, the troubled conglomerate, may be forced to write off a large part of its £69 million investment in Hondo Oil & Gas, a US exploration company, following the collapse of Hondo's share price.

Trading in Hondo shares was suspended in New York yesterday after the group revealed disappointing tests on an oil well in Colombia it is developing with Amoco Corporation. When trading resumed the shares collapsed from \$3 1/2 to \$1 1/2.

Lonrho holds 10 million of the shares and also has loans extended to the group valued at \$107 million (£63 million).

The latest Lonrho annual report says the stake was valued in the balance sheet on September 30 at £69 million but its market value had since fallen to £41 million. Commentary, page 31

**Telewest eyeing General Cable**  
By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

TELEWEST, the UK's second-largest cable group, is set to make a £600 million takeover bid for General Cable, the French-controlled cable group with franchises in London, Birmingham and Yorkshire.

NTL, the UK's third-largest cable operator, has already tabled an offer for General thought to be worth £545 million. In February, after a big rise in its share price, General, the UK's fifth-largest cable operator, was forced to issue a Stock Exchange statement saying that it was in talks with other companies that could lead to an offer for it.

NTL last month made an agreed £362 million offer for Comcast, another leading operator. However, Telewest has significant stakes in two of the four Comcast franchises — 50 per cent in Cable London and 27.45 per cent in the Birmingham operation. In the event of a sale of Comcast

## Bae Orange sale prompts talk of bid launch

By ADAM JONES AND RAYMOND SNODDY

BRITISH Aerospace raised speculation that it was preparing to launch a takeover bid in the aerospace and defence sector when it raised £764 million with the sale of most of its 21 per cent stake in Orange, the mobile phone group.

The disposal of 16.11 per cent of Orange, through SBC Warburg Dillon Read, gives BAE an exceptional profit of £368 million. It received an average price of 396p for each Orange share, which fell 21 1/2p to 397p yesterday having risen from 194p a year ago.

BAE's war chest will be further increased by the likely £300 million disposal of Arlington Securities, its property development arm, which is expected to be either floated or sold.

Although BAE sees Daimler-Benz's aerospace arm as its main target for merger or acquisition, it could move for parts of Lockheed Martin or Northrop Grumman if the US pair can salvage their merger

by selling units to appease hostile US regulators.

Richard Lapthorne, BAE finance director, said the company will keep its remaining 5 per cent stake in Orange as a long-term investment. "The Orange management team have demonstrated an excellent track record of achievement."

It is also thought that BAE wants to continue its relationship with Hutchison Whampoa, the Hong Kong conglomerate that is the biggest investor in Orange, as it searches for business opportunities in China.

Although Orange executives are grateful for the support of BAE, they are privately pleased that the uncertainty surrounding the BAE shareholding has been removed. Yesterday's sale should greatly increase liquidity. Orange believes it has suffered because until now only 30 per cent of its shares have been held by institutions.

Commentary \_\_\_\_\_ 31

Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, Next's outgoing chairman, and which is mounting a hostile bid for Argos, may turn its attention to Next. John Richards, a NatWest Markets analyst, said he would not be surprised to see Lord Wolfson target Next. Lord Wolfson declined to comment. Advisers to Argos were clearly delighted by Next's fall from grace and said the profit warning proved that Lord Wolfson "does not walk on water".

David Jones, Next chief executive, said things had begun to go seriously awry when the women's wear range was shifted away from classics and into high fashion. Hilary Santell, the buyer who is blamed for the mistake, resigned earlier this year but the summer and early autumn collections cannot now be altered.

Next's problems have since been compounded by understocking of the most popular

stakeholder pensioners, even though a mis-selling scandal concerning these schemes is expected to cost those companies as much as £11 billion in compensation payments.

Work-shy targeted, page 1  
Commentary, page 31  
Anatole Kaletsky, page 33  
Extracts, page 33

Shares of EMI Group, the UK music company, fell after a shock profits warning by PolyGram one of its main competitors. Page 35

## Savings industry presses for compulsion

By CAROLINE MERRILL

THE savings industry yesterday pressed the Government to make contributions to second-tier pensions compulsory. Reacting to the Green Paper on welfare, insurance companies argued that forcing people to contribute to pensions was the only way to ensure there was adequate provision for retirement.

The plea from the insurance industry came as the Government gave the strongest hint yet that it planned to scrap the state earnings related pension scheme (Serps).

In a 96-page Green Paper on reform of the welfare state, no reference was made to the future of Serps. The scheme costs £17 billion a year, from the total annual social security bill of £90 billion. More than ten million people currently contribute to Serps.

The Department of Social Security yesterday reiterated the Government's manifesto pledge that Serps would be continued for those who had already accrued benefits.

The Government also indicated it was considering making contributions to second-tier pensions compulsory. Another Green Paper looking at pensions, including stakeholder pensions, for those without pension provision is expected later in the year.

The biggest beneficiaries of the

Green Paper will be insurance companies who have already participated in the privatisation of pensions, even though a mis-selling scandal concerning these schemes is expected to cost those companies as much as £11 billion in compensation payments.

Work-shy targeted, page 1  
Commentary, page 31  
Anatole Kaletsky, page 33  
Extracts, page 33

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 34 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Registered in Scotland No. 9812.  
Registered by IFSC, SFA and Personal Investment Authority.



سكزا من لاجل

# Boardroom departures at Powerscreen

BY ADAM JONES

SHAY MCKEOWN resigned as chief executive of Powerscreen International yesterday, days before the completion of an auditor's report into serious irregularities at the engineering group.

It was also announced that Barry Cosgrove, finance director, had left the company with immediate effect.

Mr McKeown's departure comes after the Northern Ireland company took a £47 million charge against profits at its Matbro subsidiary. He will continue to work as a consultant. It is not yet been decided whether the two men will receive any compensation for loss of office.

Powerscreen shares, which fell 54 per cent when the Matbro affair emerged, recovered 40p to 236p yesterday. Matbro, which makes telescopic handling equipment and is based in England, mispriced machines in a bid to maintain market share in Europe. Unreliable new designs incurred big

warranty costs and unauthorised discounts had also been given. The recording of IoUs issued by suppliers was "inaccurate and misleading", Powerscreen admitted.

Patrick Doocy, the executive with responsibility for Matbro, leaves at the end of March. He had been paid £517,000 in 1996-97 and gained a further £1.33 million after exercising share options.

Mr McKeown, who was paid £554,000 in 1996-97 and made a further £2 million profit from exercised share options, had said that Powerscreen's devolved system of management meant that he had no inkling of the problems.

KPMG, the Powerscreen auditor, is due to complete its inquiry into the irregularities within the next week. The main findings are likely to be published. The outcome of the investigation may also determine whether directors should repay bonuses received for the affected period.

# Spurs puts cost on relegation

BY JASON NISSE



Spurs fans and shareholders are looking to Jürgen Klinsmann

RELEGATION from the Premiership would cost Tottenham Hotspur about £4.25 million in lost revenue next season. The club is currently one position above the relegation zone in football's top flight.

John Sedgewick, Spurs finance director, said the adverse effect on gate receipts would be £1 million. The figure would be higher but the club's White Hart Lane ground has had a restricted capacity this season.

A further £250,000 would probably be lost from merchandising revenue, but the biggest hit would be in television income, with about £3 million being wiped from revenues.

Spurs gave warning that the cost of new players taken on to fight relegation — notably Jürgen Klinsmann and Nicola Bertè — would sharply increase the club's wage bill in the second half of this financial year.

This is on top of a 33 per cent increase in players and match costs to £7.5 million in the six months to January 31. This held back profits before tax and player trading of £7.44 million, a rise of just £46,000.

Earnings per share, struck after a £3.4 million loss on player trading, fell from 5.7p to 2.1p, and the interim dividend is unchanged at 0.33p.

# Mr Copper jailed for eight years

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

YASUO HAMANAKA, the former trader known as "Mr Copper", was given an eight-year prison term yesterday for fraud and forgery that eventually cost Sumitomo Corporation £1.55 billion.

At the end of a year-long trial, the Tokyo District Court found Hamanaka, 50, guilty of defrauding Sumitomo's Hong Kong subsidiary out of £470 million and forging the signature of his former superiors.

The former head of copper trading at Sumitomo's non-ferrous metals department was fired in June 1996 after confessing that he had incurred huge losses during more than ten years of off-the-book copper deals.

The judge said he had swindled Sumitomo out of an "unprecedentedly huge" amount of money, "shaken the foundations" of the trading house, and caused "enormous turmoil in international copper markets, including the London Metal Exchange".

The ruling said Sumitomo's total losses from Hamanaka's illicit transactions exceeded 285 billion yen (£1.55 billion).

# Beazer builds up Charles Church

BEAZER, the housebuilding group, has bought a 24-plot site in Warwickshire for Charles Church, its upmarket subsidiary, which is expanding into the Midlands. Dennis Webb, Beazer's chief executive, said that Charles Church will grow from its base in southeast England and establish itself in the triangle marked by Stratford, Oxford and Solihull. The houses on the first site, near Solihull, will have an average price of £200,000.

Beazer was reporting a 32 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits, to £31.4 million, on turnover up 16 per cent, at £264.9 million. This reflected a 12 per cent rise in completions, to 3,494, and a 4 per cent increase in average selling price, to £75,900. Mr Webb said that Charles Church, which sold 111 houses at an average of £170,000, was expected to complete twice as many sales in the second half. This is because of Beazer's increased investment in the business, acquired two years ago. The main Beazer Homes arm sold 2,897 houses for an average of £77,900. Mr Webb said the group now has the structure to cope with more than 10,000 sales a year. The interim dividend rises to 2.3p (2.1p). *Times, page 32*

# Go-Ahead windfalls

FIVE train managers are to receive windfall payouts after selling their stake in one of the privatised rail companies. Go-Ahead is paying £6.1 million for the remaining shares in Victory railways, which runs the Thames train services into London, Paddington. More than 200 staff from the original management buyout have been invited to sell their shares. The Thames trains management team, led by Roger MacDonald, will earn about £300,000 each from their share of the sale of 34.8 per cent of the company.

# TAG Heuer ahead

TAG HEUER, the Swiss watchmaker, lifted pre-tax profits by SF31 million to SF263 million (£105 million) in 1997. Earnings per share excluding exceptional rose to SF7.83, from SF6.82. Sales by the sports watch company rose by SF54 million, to SF474 million. The results were achieved despite a SF20 million charge relating to integration of distribution in the UK, Japan and Australia. A first 1997 dividend of SF1.5 is proposed. TAG Heuer is listed on the Swiss and New York stock exchanges.

# ABI shares suspended

THE future of ABI Leisure, the UK's largest manufacturer of caravans, was in doubt after the company requested a temporary suspension of its stock market listing yesterday. Its shares, trading at 12p in May 1996, were suspended at 13p "pending clarification of the company's financial position". The extent of ABI's problems became apparent last August when it revealed that financial mismanagement of foreign currency transactions would push it into the red. In December it reported losses of £5.6 million.

# Times writer rewarded

OLIVER AUGUST (left), former European business writer and now Wall Street correspondent for *The Times*, has won the Anglo-German Foundation's 1998 prize for outstanding journalistic contribution to British-German understanding. He receives DM10,000 (£3,300).

	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.25	2.27	0.899	0.899
Austria Sch.	22.25	22.25	Netherlands Gld	3.941
Belgium F	63.27	63.27	New Zealand \$	3.12
Canada \$	2.494	2.506	Norway Kr	13.27
Denmark Dkr	12.27	12.27	Portugal Esc	204.16
France F	163.73	163.73	S Africa R	8.45
Germany DM	1.93	1.93	Spain Ptas	166.38
Hong Kong	7.75	7.75	Sweden Kr	14.35
India Rupee	47.625	47.625	Switzerland Fr	2.05
Japan Yen	136.14	136.14	Turkey Lira	4022.70
South Africa Rand	13.4	13.4	USA \$	1.768
United Kingdom £	1.00	1.00		
USA \$	0.69	0.69		
Yen	136.14	136.14		

Notes: For small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank. Other rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES



IT'S MONDAY. SOMEONE DIDN'T READ THE BUSINESS SECTION.

**The Open University**  
BUSINESS SCHOOLS

**Be a more effective manager in just 6 months**

Now you can gain the management skills you need to succeed in a changing world - without taking time off work.

The Open University Business School offers six-month courses to help you plan and manage change, recruit and motivate people, resolve conflicts, make decisions, manage stress and retain customers.

As world leaders in supported distance learning, we offer everything you need to make learning effective and enjoyable.

You work in your own time, at your own pace. But your personal tutor is only a phone call away, and you can meet fellow students through study groups and residential schools.

All OUBS' courses are backed by over 25 years' experience in distance learning. Our methods and materials were given the highest rating of 'excellent' by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

For details of our courses return the coupon. Or call the 24-hour OUBS Hotline.

Send to: Course Reservations Centre, PO Box 625, Milton Keynes MK1 1TY.

Please send me your Management Development prospectus. I have contacted the OUBS before. Yes/No

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_ 1997

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

18 \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_

**OUBS Hotline 01908 653449**  
<http://oubs.open.ac.uk>

The Open University opens minds, opens doors



حکامان العمل

# Frank's field of dreams

COMMENTARY  
by our City Editor



Stakeholder pensions, citizenship pensions, motherhood, apple pie. Frank Field's much-vaunted White Paper abounds with ideas that sound wholesome but might not turn out to be so tasty once the ingredients of the recipe emerge.

Details of the dramatic reform of the welfare system remain for the future. Despite the wealth of suggestions that have been offered to him from the savings industry, it will be the autumn before we learn any more of Mr Field's radical thinking on pensions.

Yesterday, there was not even a commitment to making a second pension compulsory, although the man charged with the daunting task of being Minister for Welfare Reform did concede that this was being given serious consideration. That is just as well, for without compulsion Mr Field stands little chance of realising his grandly declared aim of guaranteeing a decent income in retirement for all, without increasing the proportion of the Bill borne by the Government.

The savings industry is unlikely to have the gall to take issue with the sweeping condemnation contained in the White Paper statement that: "In place of poor-value private pensions, we will introduce low-cost

Stakeholder Pension schemes...". But Frank Field's enthusiasm for mutual organisations such as friendly societies and trade unions is not going to be enough to ensure that the financial services giants are excluded from providing these secondary pensions. They will have to work at devising the low cost packages which can be sold off the shelf, complete with kitemark to guarantee efficacy.

The Financial Services Authority, which will be charged with establishing and enforcing the regulation of these products, will face an arduous task. If the stakeholder pension does not come up to scratch, Howard Davies could find himself in the firing line.

The second pension for carers, to be known henceforth as a citizens' pension, will require equally close policing. Any exploitation by pension providers of this category of "deserving poor" would meet with an outcry which would make the naming and shaming of recent pensions mis-sellers look like a gentle tap.

The White Paper, so short on concrete proposals, did offer one

piece of firm good news. Frank Field has identified the idiocy of encouraging people to insure against unemployment and then penalise them for just such prudence by deducting their insurance payouts from state benefits which they might otherwise receive. "Simply absurd" was Mr Field's verdict on the state of affairs.

## If you can't beat them, buy them

Back in 1980, the Bank of England's sterling index hit nearly 140. By that standard, manufacturers have little to complain about even if the pound has reached 108.1, its highest since December 1988, and has more than reversed its devaluation when we left the European exchange rate mecha-

nism in 1992. Remember, however, what happened in the early 1980s. An extremely strong currency plus the relatively high domestic interest rates that had helped to elevate it laid waste to vast swathes of factories.

Today, manufacturing accounts for only a fifth of national output. But a study by Jane Croft for the Foundation for Manufacturing Industry claims that a rise in manufacturing output still boosts the gross domestic product by 2.5 times as much.

The latest trade figures show that manufacturers are being hit by the strength of sterling, high local interest rates and now by the Asian crash. This year, exports to Korea are running at half last year's rate and exports to other tiger economies are well down. But imports from Korea have grown. The capital account of the balance of payments will

start weakening too if more of the companies lining up for the slave auctions manage to buy corporate bargains in Korea et al.

The foreign exchanges clearly reckon that this weakening balance of payments is as likely to persuade the Bank's monetary policy committee to push interest rates up as to persuade traders to push the pound down. The committee appears however, to be ignoring embarrassments from the money supply figures. It should recognise that a widening trade gap is the result of its actions and should not be a spur to them.

## Tiny question hides bigger issues

Today is the day of the Lorrho annual meeting. During the Tiny Rowland era, shareholding fans flocked to

cheer their swashbuckling leader. Though the venue has changed, and Rowland now sits in the audience, he is still the centre of attention. This is a pity, because the Rowland v Lorrho battle should not obscure some issues that the group's board desperately needs to address.

It is not scheduled for consideration at the meeting but the buyback of 21 per cent of the company's shares held by Anglo American must prey on many minds. Lorrho is paying 106p a share in the deal which looks reasonable. But why has the board not structured the purchase a little more cleverly, so avoiding more than £20 million of tax which it now looks likely that the group will have to pay?

Then there is the interminable delay in the sale of Princess, the hotels chain that Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal balked at buying before Christmas. After the share buyback, Lorrho will have about £600 million of debt, a burden which does not strengthen its negotiating position with potential Princess purchasers.

The issue about potential legal action against Dieter Bock, the

former chief executive, will no doubt be raised by Rowland and his cohorts. But shareholders need an explanation of why the group's £44 million suit against Impala in South Africa was thrown out of court — and if Mr Bock was at fault, what is being done about it.

The most vexing issue of all must be the company's exposure to Hondo Oil & Gas. Lorrho has £69 million invested in this exploration company, which appears to have hit a dry well off the coast of Colombia and whose shares lost more than half their value yesterday. As Lorrho has already said that this holding is probably worth only £41 million — yet has made no provision for the fall in value — how long will it be before the board considers almost all this stake is a write-off?

## Blame the Next man

NEXT's fashion faux pas brought about a disproportionate slump in the share price. But what should be but a temporary profit setback has been greeted with glee at Argos. Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale may be only non-executive chairman at Next, and it is unfortunate that his reign ends on a sour note, but, to hear the crowing from the company he wants to buy, he might have been personally responsible for choosing the wrong designs and colours.

# ICI adds Williams to paints division

By PAUL DURMAN

ICI is to pay £350 million for Polyfilla, Cuprinol, Hammerite and the other brands that form the European home improvement businesses of Williams.

The businesses will strengthen ICI's paints and coatings division, which is centred on Dulux. The move is in keeping with ICI's strategy of moving out of commodity chemicals and closer to consumer markets.

The deal comes only two weeks after Williams formally put its home improvement activities up for sale. Williams has also decided to float Robbialac, a leading paint company in Portugal, on the Lisbon stock market.

The disposals will allow Williams to return £300 million to its shareholders through an issue of redeemable preference shares, which will be issued to existing

holders of the company's ordinary and convertible preference shares.

Roger Carr, chief executive of Williams, took advantage of a 24½p rise in the company's share price to 451p to exercise 575,000 options, immediately selling the shares for a £1.15 million profit.

Williams expects to make an after-tax profit of £107 million on the sale — after deducting the £151 million of goodwill previously written off. Mr Carr said this was a testament to the value created by Williams' management.

ICI is paying 1.9 times the sales of the acquired businesses and 16 times their 1997 earnings, but it expects an immediate enhancement to earnings.

The acquired businesses made a trading profit of £34 million on sales of £185 million last year, and ended Decem-

ber with net assets of £45 million.

The European home improvement businesses were assembled over the last ten years or so. Polyfilla joined Williams as part of its purchase of Crown while the Cuprinol woodcare range and Robbialac, were part of Berger. ICI Paints hopes to take advantage of the integrated distribution network that Williams has put in place.

ICI said it could not give guarantees about the security of the 1,250 employees involved in the UK, Austria, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy.

Williams has still to find buyers for its North American, paints and coatings companies, which have sales of \$400-500 million (£237-297 million). Mr Carr said he hoped to complete the disposals by the end of the year.

# Northern Leisure in talks

By DOMINIC WALSH

SHARES in Northern Leisure, the fast-growing nightclub operator, rose 65p to 582½p after it revealed it was in "talks which may or may not lead to an offer". The group would not be drawn on the identity of the bidder, although analysts suggested Scottish & Newcastle is a possible candidate.

Nick Oppenheim, the vice-chair-

man of Northern, said: "Given the company's prosperity it will have to be a very generous bid to get a board recommendation."

At yesterday's close, the company had a market capitalisation of £350 million, valuing Mr Oppenheim's 16 per cent stake at more than £50 million.

# Yule to focus on growth

By KATHY LIPARI

YULE CATTO, the speciality chemicals group, will focus on organic growth and reducing its debt levels this year. Yesterday the company announced a 4.4 per cent increase in profits before tax to £38.05 million for 1997.

Alex Walker, chief executive, said growth in its key markets of polymer chemicals, which accounts for 35 per

cent of sales, and fine chemicals, which contributes 33 per cent of turnover, would boost the group.

Earnings increased 7.5 per cent to 24.4p a share. The total dividend rises to 10p from 9p, with a 6p final. The shares rose 5½p to 369p.

Tempus, page 32



Dan Wagner, chief executive of Dialog, saw shares fall 11½p

# Creation of Dialog cost £18.3m

By FRASER NELSON

DAN WAGNER, the 34-year-old entrepreneur who last November created the world's largest on-line information company by merging MAID with Knight-Ridder Information, yesterday revealed the exercise cost £18.3 million.

Shares of Dialog Corporation dropped 11½p to 152½p as the company said the original MAID business lost £3.67 million in 1997 — far worse than City expectations.

However, Mr Wagner said the slowdown in MAID's growth was due to the management concentrating on the merger at the end of last year.

Keith Woolcock, analyst at Merrill Lynch, has reduced his position on the company from buy to hold. He said: "This is the year that Dan Wagner needs to convert the bulk into muscle, and he has absolutely no room for error."

Redundancy costs and restructuring charges left the enlarged company with a pre-tax loss of £20.4 million (£7.03 million loss). This equated to a loss of 20.5p per share (7.82p loss). Again, there is no dividend.

# S&F boosted by performance of stockbroker

By RICHARD MILES

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER, the banking and financial services group, yesterday reported a 29 per cent rise in profits, thanks largely to the performance of Carnegie, the Nordic brokerage business in which it has a 55 per cent stake.

Pre-tax profits before exceptional items were £53.8 million. The exceptional items consisted of losses of £1.76 million on the termination of Interlink and Structured Export Finance.

Stockbroking accounted for almost 60 per cent of profits, reflecting an outstanding year from Carnegie, where profits leapt 85 per cent to £32.7 million, of which S&F's share was about £18 million.

S&F said 1997 had been a disappointing year for the merchant banking business, where profits dropped 13.5 per cent.

The company said it would pay a final dividend of 3.22p taking the total to 5.35p, an increase of 15 per cent on the previous year.

# Slough Estates lifted by rise in industrial rents

By RICHARD MILES

A TEN PER CENT rise in industrial rents over the past year has helped to lift pre-tax profits of Slough Estates by 23 per cent, to £93.2 million.

Slough, the UK's largest industrial property company, said that the profit rise was 13 per cent if property investment sales are excluded.

Total assets rose by 14 per cent, to £2.4 billion, mainly reflecting steady growth in capital values. This helped to cut gearing to 45 per cent, from 52 per cent, even though borrowings rose slightly.

Sir Nigel Mobbs, chairman, said favourable conditions in the UK industrial property market were expected to continue in 1998, but the market might be weakened in later years by a decline in business confidence caused by volatility in Asian markets, the strong pound, risks of turbulence after European monetary union and worry over the millennium computer bug.

A 2p final dividend, to be paid as a foreign income dividend because of an advance corporation tax surplus, makes 9.525p, up 5.8 per cent.



For Markham Publishing, an 0800 number that's made them busier than ever.

A few months ago we asked thousands of business people to tell us what we could do for them.

Over 62% said they'd like help acquiring new customers.

An 0800 number can do just that. In fact, a lot of our own customers already find it's an excellent, cost efficient way to encourage calls.

At Cable & Wireless we've listened to thousands of business customers, to help us provide fresh ways of applying our technology.

Our aim is to offer a new approach to communications, so we've started differently. With you, the customer.

What can we do for you?  
FreeCall 0800 068 8070



CABLE & WIRELESS

<http://www.cwcom.co.uk>



سكدا من لاجل

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CAW Stock Market Writer of the Year

LucasVarity slips amid signs of an acquisition

LUCASVARTY, the US-controlled automotive components group, retreated 2p to 234p amid signs that the group is building up its war chest as the prelude to a big acquisition.

The company will today conclude a deal with a consortium of banks, including Societe Generale and HSBC, to restructure £500 million of debt.

Robert Speedy at Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, says this and the sale of its VarsityPerkins diesel engine division last year would give it more than £1 billion of firepower.

The rest of the equity market gave up fresh ground in the face of further nervous selling ahead of the end of the first quarter. The overnight setback for Wall Street and fresh selling again last night combined with the profit warning from Next to depress sentiment. But the FTSE 100 index halved an earlier fall to close 62.2 down at 5,905.6.

Turnover topped more than 4 billion shares, swollen by the Orange placing.

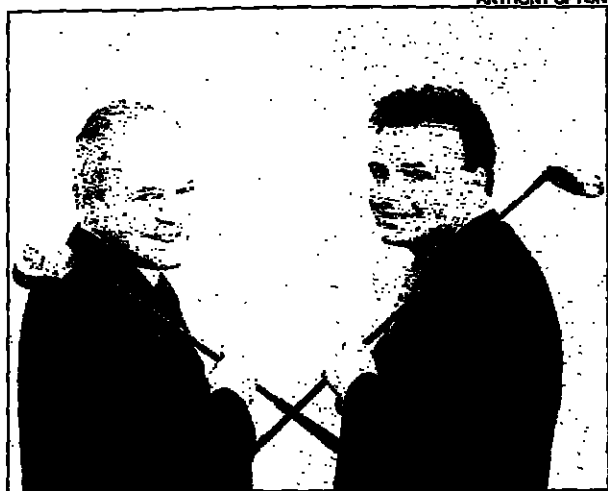
Next touched 517p before ending a troubled session 173p down at 544 1/2p in the wake of the group's surprise profits warning. More than 24 million shares changed hands in heavy trading.

It seems that all those bears such as Nick Bubb at Societe Generale Securities, the broker, who had been worried about the group's spring collection, were on the right track. Bubb responded yesterday by cutting his profits forecast for the current year from £210 million to £175 million and by £30 million to £205 million for 1999.

Elsewhere on the high street, House of Fraser dropped 7 1/2p to 162 1/2p as Credit Suisse First Boston, the broker, put out a "sell" recommendation.

It looks as if SBC Warburg, the broker, is going to have its work cut out finding a home for the remainder of the Orange shares it bought from British Aerospace as part of a bought deal. Warburg is reckoned to have paid £763.3 million, or 400p, for the 193 million shares (16.1 per cent). By the close of business last night it had placed 142.29 million of them at 395p. Orange finished 2 1/2p down at 397p.

B.Ae, which has always made known its desire to sell the remaining Orange shares, will continue to hold onto the



Guy Buckley, left, and Charlie Parker saw Clubhaus shares retreat despite a surge in pre-tax profit to £5.08 million

remaining 5 per cent stake. It closed just 3p dearer at £20.05.

Colt Telecom touched £12.14 before closing 90p down at £12.52 on the back of overnight selling of the shares in the US.

Diageo dropped 17 1/2p to 603p despite reports that it was on the verge of selling its Dewar's Scotch whisky brand to Bacardi for £800 million.

Cadbury Schweppes ended 25 1/2p down at 802p after Sanford Bernstein, the US investment house, reduced its rating for the shares from "market performer" to "underperformer".

The bid approach for Northern Leisure lifted the shares 65p to 582 1/2p. At these levels, the nightclub owner is valued at £348 million.

The shares retreated from a high of 106p to 102 1/2p, a profit warning left Flare Group nursing a loss of 10p at 30p. The engineering contractor says pre-tax profits are expected to be between £100,000 and £200,000. Original estimates were £750,000 to £1.2 million.

Troubled Powerscreen surged 40 1/2p to 236 1/2p after investors learnt of the departure of the chief executive and finance director.

There are signs of recovery at Strategem with the price hardening 2 1/2p to a 12-month high of 88 1/2p.

GILT-EDGED: Some hawkish comments about interest rates from William Butler, a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, put the skids under the bond market.

Shorter-dated issues suffered most as he warned that a fall in the value of the pound would pose a risk to inflation.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fell three ticks to £108 1/2 as a total of 60,000 contracts were completed. The five-year future fell 0.7 to £102.47 in thin trading that saw 592 contracts completed.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2021 firmed a tick to £127 1/2, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed three ticks at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: Shares opened lower as the market consolidated recent gains. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 37.37 points at 8,835.43.

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

Speculative buying also lifted another nightclub owner, Lumina, 22 1/2p to 797 1/2p. Bid speculation hoisted Stavley Industries 0p to 127 1/2p. The shares were undervalued recently by a profits warning.

Williams stood out with a jump of 24 1/2p at 451p after the sale of its home improvements division to ICI for £350 million. The rise was the result of a "rogue price" being fed into the system on Wednesday.

There was a lukewarm response to full-year figures from Clubhaus despite a surge in pre-tax profits from £1.5 million to £5.08 million. The golf course operator, whose chief operating officer is Guy Buckley and managing director Charlie Parker, said trading was in line with expectations.

The shares retreated from a high of 106p to 102 1/2p, a profit warning left Flare Group nursing a loss of 10p at 30p. The engineering contractor says pre-tax profits are expected to be between £100,000 and £200,000. Original estimates were £750,000 to £1.2 million.

Troubled Powerscreen surged 40 1/2p to 236 1/2p after investors learnt of the departure of the chief executive and finance director.

There are signs of recovery at Strategem with the price hardening 2 1/2p to a 12-month high of 88 1/2p.

GILT-EDGED: Some hawkish comments about interest rates from William Butler, a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, put the skids under the bond market.

Shorter-dated issues suffered most as he warned that a fall in the value of the pound would pose a risk to inflation.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fell three ticks to £108 1/2 as a total of 60,000 contracts were completed. The five-year future fell 0.7 to £102.47 in thin trading that saw 592 contracts completed.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2021 firmed a tick to £127 1/2, while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed three ticks at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: Shares opened lower as the market consolidated recent gains. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 37.37 points at 8,835.43.

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5,915.4 (+39.9) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5,905.6 (+36.1)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16,980.62 (+322.38) Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11,797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1,120.12 (+12.15) Sydney: All Ordinaries 2,781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5,039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1,651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1,760.61 (+29.49) Paris: CAC-40 3,763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1,500.90 (+12.50)

New York (midday): Dow Jones 8835.43 (-37.37) S&P Composite 1098.42 (-3.33)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 16980.62 (+322.38) Hang Seng 11797.88 (+52.75)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11797.88 (+52.75) Amsterdam: AEX Index 1120.12 (+12.15)

Sydney: All Ordinaries 2781.1 (+0.5) Frankfurt: DAX 5039.76 (+56.84)

DAX 5039.76 (+56.84) Singapore: Straits Times 1651.64 (+15.58) Brussels: General 1760.61 (+29.49)

Paris: CAC-40 3763.78 (+34.68) Zurich: SFA Gex 1500.90 (+12.50)

London: FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 100 5905.6 (+36.1) FTSE 250 5915.4 (+39.9)

A Scandinavian success

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER is one of the unsung heroes of British banking. Like Close Brothers, S&F's earnings more than trebled since 1990, but the message doesn't seem to have got through to investors. While Close appears fully valued on a price/earnings ratio in the high teens, S&F trades at a 35 per cent discount to the sector.

Part of the reason for its lack of appeal to investors must be that few take the time to understand the business, or more accurately, its businesses. For S&F is no longer just a rather fuddy-duddy merchant bank. The banking operation accounted for less than a quarter of 1997 profits.

These days, the core of S&F is stockbroking, with its 65 per cent holding in Carnegie, the Nordic brokerage, the jewel in the crown. Collins Stewart, its UK broking business, has

also contributed well, and has recorded its sixth successive year of growth.

However, it is in the nature of S&F and Tony Solomons, its entrepreneurial chairman, never to stand still. While broking is in the ascendant at the moment, the future lies with fund management. Even so, the retail division have grown to £2.4 billion but the group needs an acquisition if the business is to continue to develop at pace.

While Mr Solomons waits for the right opportunity to come up, he'll continue to experiment in different fields. Though potentially risky, S&F has shown it is not afraid to kill off new ventures that turn bad: witness the £1.6 million termination loss on Inter-Link, a currency dealing system.



# Field guide points to 'third way'

## Anatole Kaletsky explains the distinctive features that characterise Blair's daunting ambition in reforming the welfare state

Tony Blair always claimed that it would take a Labour leader both to fix up and to cut down the welfare state. On the gamekeeper-turned-poacher principle of "Nixon in China", he argued that the British people would trust only Labour to do the right thing. And only Labour would have the motivation to rebuild an efficient welfare state rather than let it crumble under the weight of its own inefficiency. Indeed, Mr Blair has often suggested that welfare reform would be new Labour's greatest historic task.

Against such grandiose ambitions yesterday's Green Paper may seem a serious disappointment, given its absence of concrete measures and its all too evident decision on all the controversial practical issues, such as the questions of compulsion in private pensions provision or the taxation of cash benefits received by the rich and the middle class. But this document was never supposed to put forward specific legislative plans or even to resolve the deep divergences on almost all the practical issues between the Government's two main thinkers on welfare — Frank Field and Gordon Brown. What

the Green Paper exercise was supposed to do was create a framework for the Government's often confusing ideas about welfare reform. Even in this limited ideological task the Green Paper may not have been fully successful, but squeezing between the overblown rhetoric and the sociological jargon, some of the key elements of a new way of thinking about welfare are beginning to emerge.

The Government wants to redraw the dividing line between public and private welfare spending; the intention is not only to make this demarcation more rational, but also to persuade citizens to spend far more of their after-tax incomes on some of the services traditionally financed through taxes and provided by the welfare state. Even more importantly Mr Blair wants to redefine what people in Britain see as the real function of the welfare state.

Broadly speaking there are four func-

tions of the welfare state: to alleviate poverty and redistribute income; to provide insurance against unemployment and disability; to finance pensions; and to provide public goods, above all education and health. In the past the welfare state has been identified primarily with the first two functions — supporting the poor and unemployed. Yet the money it has spent has gone mostly on the third — financing pensions. Meanwhile, the fourth category of welfare spending — on health and education — has suffered from severe underfunding, pushing more and more people towards buying these services

from the private sector, instead of relying on tax-financed provision by the State.

The main thrust of Mr Blair's reforms is to shift the balance between these four functions of the welfare state away from financing pensions and cash benefits towards the provision of better public services. He wants his welfare policies to be judged in future not by how much money it redistributes through various kinds of cash benefits but by how well it provides or administers services directly for the citizens, above all through the education and health systems, but also through new support programmes for the disabled, for

single parents and for retraining the unemployed.

The distinction between providing services and recycling cash seems to be at the heart of the whole welfare reform programme. It is also the key difference between the free-market individualism of the Thatcherite Tories and the new blend of collectivism and individualism which Mr Blair is trying to define as Labour's "third way".

The Tories did not only want to roll back the boundaries of the welfare state by reducing both taxes and public spending. They believed even more fervently that when the Government did supply welfare, this should be done, if possible, by handing out cash benefits, rather than by providing services to the citizen directly through the public sector. It was far better to give people cash to buy services from the private sector than for the State to try to offer services itself. This philoso-

phy led to the virtual elimination of the council house building programme, to the creeping privatisation of the health service, to the steady growth of private education.

Mr Blair's attitude to welfare reform, far from extending this Tory agenda, seems to be diametrically opposed to the free-market view. He seems to believe that publicly managed health and education services, equally accessible to all and generously financed by taxes, should be the main pillars of a new welfare state. The goal of his welfare reforms is not just to roll back the boundaries of the State, in the Thatcherite manner, or even to help people by weaning them off dependence on cash handouts. Mr Blair's goal is also to create the high-quality public services that he has identified as the hallmarks of a modern welfare state. This is a daunting ambition. If Mr Blair manages to make much progress towards it, he will have justified his entire political project: somewhere between Thatcherism and the 19th-century utopian socialism from which he claims to have drawn inspiration, Mr Blair will have found his "third way".

# Vision of a decent and fair society

The following are extracts from the Green Paper *New ambitions for our country: a new contract for welfare*

The welfare system is a proud creation. But reform is essential if we are to realise our vision of a modern nation and a decent and fair society.

Through our proposals we aim to break the cycle of dependency and insecurity and empower all citizens to lead a dignified and fulfilling life. We need a new welfare "contract" between citizen and state, with rights matched by responsibilities.

We will rebuild the welfare state around the work ethic: work for those who can; security for those who cannot.

THE welfare state is 50 years old this year and is showing its age. At its birth, the vision was broad and encompassed all welfare services, such as education and health as well as social security benefits. We need to recapture that original vision. Too many people are trapped in passive dependency, rather than being helped towards independence. The system is not meeting our ambitions for a fairer, more prosperous society. The problem with welfare is not that it costs too much — it is that it achieves too little.

The gap between high and low earners has widened; more women are working; and the number of "workless" households in which no one has a job has grown. Society has changed too, with more older people, more single parents and more divorce and separation. Some people, the socially excluded, are so afflicted by unemployment and deprivation that they no longer participate fully in society.

These changes mean that reform is essential. Fraud takes £4 billion out of the system and away from genuine claimants.

The welfare state faces a choice of three futures:  
 A privatised future with the welfare state becoming a residual safety net for the poorest and most marginalised, or  
 The status quo but with more generous and costly benefits; or  
 The Government's third way — promoting opportunity instead of dependence, with the welfare state for the broad mass of people, but in new ways to fit the modern world.

Eight key principles will guide our reform programme.

### WORK

WORK is at the heart of our reform programme. The new welfare state should help and encourage people of working age to work where they are capable of doing so.

We will help key groups through the New Deal, rebuilding welfare around the work ethic. Young people, lone parents, the long-term unemployed, and people with a disability or long-term illness will be the beneficiaries.

We are introducing personal advisers to provide tailored packages of help.

We will ensure that work pays by introducing the Working Families Tax Credit which will offer more generous support to working families; reforming the tax and benefits system; introducing the national minimum wage; and modernising the national insurance scheme.

We will also act to tackle barriers to work, such as low skills, the difficulty of moving from benefits to wages, perverse benefit incentives and lack of access to affordable childcare. Our reforms will change the nature of the relationship between government and claimant. It is the

responsibility of government to provide positive help; it is the responsibility of the claimants to take it up.

WE NEED higher levels of saving to provide decent retirement incomes. And we need to recognise the significant differences in pensioner incomes. The public and private sectors should work in partnership to ensure that, wherever possible, people are insured against foreseeable risks and make provision for their retirement.

The Government does not have a monopoly of welfare. There is a growing and welcome expansion of saving for retirement. But people stuck in a cycle of low-paid work and unemployment are losing out. So are carers.

Our proposals for Stakeholder Pensions will give wider access to a second pension. We are also examining the creation of Citizenship Pensions.

We will get more help to the poorest pensioners by running pilots to improve take-up of income support by pensioners, and targeting extra support, such as the special winter fuel payments to pensioners.

We are looking further at measures to promote saving for retirement, including the extent to which people should be further required and helped to make provision for old age.

We are also encouraging savings through the new individual savings accounts and through better regulation through the Financial Services Authority.

THE new welfare state should provide public services of high quality to the whole community, as well as cash benefits.

Government services — especially education, health and housing — are at least as important as cash benefits in promoting independence, tackling poverty and widening opportunity. They must be mobilised to combat poverty and social exclusion.

A skilled workforce is essential to a modern economy, and high educational standards offer people their best chance of a secure and prosperous life.

This Government is committed to raising standards in schools; to promoting lifelong learning; and to improving access to further and higher education. Modernisation will ensure equal access to the National Health Service, regardless of geography, sex, class, age or ethnicity. The NHS is being modernised to improve standards.

Social services, too, need to be more responsive: we will publish our proposals on this later this year. Help with rent through housing benefit and support to local authorities and housing associations, will remain an important element of support for people who are retired, in low-paid work, or who are permanently unable to take up work.

We are reviewing the underlying relationship between housing policy and housing benefit to address the weaknesses of the current regime.

Those who are disabled should get the support they need to lead a fulfilling life with dignity.

Disabled people face a range of social and economic disadvantages, not least on civil rights. We have set up a Disability Rights Task Force,



Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, and Frank Field, the Minister for Welfare Reform, yesterday

and will establish a Disability Rights Commission to protect, enforce and promote the rights of disabled people. We will implement the remaining provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act. And we have introduced the New Deal for Disabled People.

The number of people claiming incapacity benefit (IB) has risen threefold in recent years. We want to fundamentally reform IB for future claimants. We need to examine, in consultation with disability groups, the scope for a new assessment test which focuses on what people can do, not on what they cannot, as does the present test.

Savings can be used to increase spending on severely disabled people with the greatest needs. We are committed to the importance of cash support to meet the extra costs of disability. Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance will remain national, universal benefits. We will be reviewing in consultation with organisations of and for disabled people how the administration of these benefits can be improved.

THE system should support families and children, as well as tackling child poverty.

One in three children lives in a family with an income below half the average. It is often children and families who bear the brunt of economic change. We are increasing child benefit and giving extra help to the poorest families. A million children and their parents will be helped over the next five years by the Government's National Childcare Strategy.

The Child Support Agency is failing too many families. We will bring forward proposals for reform later this year.

And we will put in place strategies to reduce the rate of conceptions among girls aged under 16.

THERE should be specific action to attack social exclusion and help those in poverty. We are already helping those people excluded from society with the New Deal. We have set up the Social Exclusion Unit to help

co-ordinate action across government. Action Zones for education, health and employment will all target resources on deprived areas, fitting services to local needs. The New Deal for Communities will help to provide employment opportunities for those living on the worst estates.

THE system should encourage openness and honesty and the gateways to benefit should be clear and enforceable. Losing an estimated £4 billion to fraud each year is unacceptable. We will improve detection, with better co-ordination, especially to target widespread housing benefit fraud. This, together with more effective sanctions, will deter people from trying to commit fraud. And in the longer term, we can prevent it by designing benefit systems to minimise the scope for fraud.

THE system of delivering modern welfare should be flexible, efficient and easy for people to use.

For too long, governments have seen paying cash benefits as their sole welfare duty. We are determined to build an Active Modern Service, with new responsibilities for government and individuals.

We will improve co-ordination between agencies, and increase the number of personal advisers who can identify individual needs for training, work placements and childcare.

We will put the customers at the centre of service delivery, and improve support for frontline staff — our biggest asset.

These principles will guide reform of the welfare state into the Third Age. They demonstrate that our ambition is nothing less than to restructure the institutions of welfare in order to promote people's opportunity and independence, and protect the vulnerable so that everyone can enjoy a secure and dignified life. By 2020, when our reform programme is complete, there will be a new welfare "contract", which will deliver greater trust,

transparency, responsiveness and responsibility.

WELFARE 2020 will be built on three core values of work, security and opportunity, in line with our principles set out in this Green Paper. Our reform programme will be based on these values. In the process of reform we will be consulting widely and listening to what people themselves want; judging carefully how the reform programme should be adapted in line with people's views.

AT THE heart of the modern welfare state will be a new contract between the citizen and the Government, based on responsibilities and rights. It will be the duty of Government to:

Provide people with the assistance they need to find work.

Make work pay.

Support those unable to work so that they can lead life of dignity and security.

Assist parents with the cost of raising their children.

Regulate effectively so that people can be confident that private pensions and insurance products are secure.

Relieve poverty in old age where savings are inadequate.

Devise a system that is transparent and open and gets money to those in need.

It will be the duty of the individual to:

Seek training or work where able to do so.

Take up the opportunity to be independent if able to do so.

Give support, financial or otherwise, to their children as family members.

Save for retirement where possible.

Not to defraud the taxpayer. It will be the duty of us all to help all individuals and families to realise their full potential and live a dignified life, by promoting economic independence through work, by relieving poverty where it cannot be prevented and by building a strong and cohesive society where rights are matched by responsibilities.

The development of the new contract will lead to greater:

Trust — with a clearer contract, people can have greater confidence that they will get

understand more clearly the nature of the welfare contract, they will want more information and a greater say over how their payments into the system are being used.

Responsiveness — greater responsiveness and improved information will reinforce the enhanced sense of responsibility that lies at the heart of the new welfare contract, with people not only taking more personal responsibility for their own and their families' wellbeing, but also more collective responsibility for policing the new system and preventing fraud.

Empowerment — as people take up the opportunities to work and become more independent.

### MEASURES

WE ENVISAGE that in the Fourth Age, welfare will be delivered through three channels.

A Modern Service — increasingly focused on giving people the chance to be independent and meeting their individual needs.

Our plan is for a single work-focused gateway into the benefit system for all those of working age who can work, providing customers with a flexible, professional, personalised service. In particular, we envisage personal advisers helping claimants develop a tailored action plan for regaining their independence.

We will work with the private and voluntary sectors to find innovative ways of delivering welfare and helping people into jobs. Increasingly, the services delivering help with jobs and welfare will need to work more closely with other local agencies. In addition, we will work to ensure that everyone can access high-quality on-line information about job and training opportunities, while also making their details available to employers. For people unable

to work or retired, the new service, the new service will ensure they receive their benefits on time.

Services — our new emphasis on preventing poverty will mean that more of his welfare state will be delivered through high-quality services — education, health, job assistance, childcare — and less on social security payments.

Mutuals and private providers — In 2020, these providers will deliver a substantial share of welfare provisions, particularly pensions.

### FUNDING

WITH people living longer, it is inevitable that provision for retirement will increase. We expect that much of this increase will be delivered by private and mutual providers and that the proportion of his welfare budget funded by the tax payer will not increase. We expect government spending to give a greater emphasis to measures which prevent poverty, such as education and health, as more people move into independence and off benefit.

### CONSULTATION

Please write to the following address: The Welfare Reform Green Paper Consultation Team, Department of Social Security, 7th Floor, The Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT.


You can also respond by using the following e-mail address: [welfarereform@ad001.dss.gov.uk](mailto:welfarereform@ad001.dss.gov.uk)

The Green Paper New ambitions for our country: a new contract for welfare is available from Stationery Office bookshops. It is also available in Braille, audio cassette and in Welsh (CmD 3805, price 11.50). A summary version is available free of charge from the following address: Welfare Reform, Freepost (F1A444), Hayes UB8 1ER. Tel: 0181-867 3201 Fax: 0181-867 3264.

Look what makes investments and businesses tick in

# Bahrain

- 100% foreign ownership of business
- No personal, corporate or withholding taxes
- Free movement of capital



To find out more, contact Robin Marriott, P.O. Box 11299, Manama, Bahrain, Arabian Gulf. Or fax (+973 531117) or visit our website on <http://www.bpmb.com>

BHRAIN PROMOTIONS & MARKETING BOARD



# QMH aims to cut debt mountain through disposals

By Dominic Walsh

QUEENS MOAT HOUSES, the once moribund hotel group, is to make further inroads into its debt mountain by selling its French and Belgian divisions. It has appointed Arthur Andersen to advise on the disposal of the 11 hotels which have a net asset value of £43 million.

Unveiling a sharp jump in 1997 profits yesterday, Andrew Coppel, chief executive, said net borrowings had been reduced from £933 million to £811 million during the year — well down on the £1.3 billion it was saddled with after the first reconstruction.

In recent weeks, there have been whispers of a further refinancing, but Mr Coppel said the results would "multiply the range of options open to us". He added: "We're not about to shred our shareholders' interests through a massive rights issue. We are under no pressure whatsoever to go

out and refinance tomorrow." In addition to the 11 French and Belgian hotels, six other properties are up for sale and Mr Coppel said the £50 million debt repayment due in 1999 would be covered by the proceeds. The next big repayment, some £157 million, is not due until December 2000.

QMH's improved position has enabled it to consider expansion. It is to buy out the outstanding 60 per cent of Echo Hotel, the company that owns the Glasgow Moat House, for £27 million plus assumed debt of £10 million, and is to develop leisure clubs at eight of its UK hotels at a cost of £8.3 million. In The Netherlands it is seeking management contracts and leases.

The group has previously hinted that it would eventually exit the continental market, but Mr Coppel made clear yesterday that he planned to retain a core of about 40 hotels

in The Netherlands and Germany. "The growth prospects look encouraging," he said.

Group pre-tax profits before exceptional items jumped from £4.6 million to £19.6 million, with trading profit from continuing operations up 16.6 per cent at constant exchange rates.

The legal costs from defending a claim for unfair dismissal by four former directors, including John Bairstow, the founder of QMH, added £3.6 million to the previous year's £1 million bill. The case, which started in October, continues.

Strong growth in the UK and The Netherlands allied to signs of life in the German economy contributed to a £52 million surplus on a revaluation of its 119 hotels, a rise of 10 per cent. UK trading profit rose 19.5 per cent, with occupancy averaging 72.8 per cent (71.1 per cent) and the room rate rising almost 10 per cent to £52.75. There is no dividend.



Clem Jansen, managing director of Silvermines, the electrical equipment supplier, reported a pre-tax profits rise of 34 per cent to £5.6 million for 1997. Earnings rose 11 per cent to 5.02p and the total dividend rises 12 per cent to 1.45p

## L&G offers to bail out Tribune

By Gavin Lumsden

LEGAL & GENERAL is ready to deploy its £26 billion of tracker funds in the restructuring of the troubled investment trust sector.

The company has stepped into the fray over Baring Tribune, a £340 million investment trust. Shareholders represent-

ing 10.8 per cent of the trust have forced a vote at next week's annual meeting over whether their shares can be rolled over into unit trusts so they can be encashed.

The board of Baring Tribune has announced it will publish "unitisation" proposals after the vote even though it opposes such a move.

Tribune's vote face follows a counter-

offer from L&G, which is proposing to replace Baring as the manager and turn Tribune into an All-Share tracker. By retaining Tribune's investment trust status L&G would avoid the substantial costs of unitisation.

A spokesman for L&G said: "We want to increase our exposure to investment trusts."

## Tibbett issues warning

By Kathy Lipari

TIBBETT and Britten, the logistics group, yesterday warned the market the first half of 1998 had begun "quietly" and that the rest of the year would be hampered by the strength of sterling and millennium preparation costs.

The group reported an 18 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for 1997 to £28.2 million, which was in line with analysts' expectations.

However, John Harvey, chairman, said a strong second half, driven by organic growth, would result in a year of progress for the company, with 1999 expected to be a "very good" year for the group as the benefits of recent acquisitions also flowed through.

The company's shares fell 17.5p to 610p as a result of the warning. Investors are to receive a final dividend of 13p, up from 12p, for a total payout of 18.5p, up from 17.2p in 1996.

Mr Harvey said the group's priority for the year was to improve the profitability of its North American businesses which recorded a 94 per cent leap in turnover to £301.9 million in 1997, but a flat operating profit.

PolyGra warning rebound on E.M.

BASF to seek share buy-in

BI

# A one hour meeting needn't take up half a day.



If you don't believe us, try BT Conference Call for free.

**With Conference Call, getting to meetings takes seconds.**

Meetings may be essential, but even a quick project update can take half a day for the people who attend.

Now Conference Call lets you talk to three or more people in different locations, without leaving your desk. So if a face to face meeting isn't absolutely necessary, you can avoid a journey.

With the time you'll save, you can spend more time preparing. And who knows, maybe you can even get home earlier.

**No additional equipment.**

All you need to make a Conference Call is a telephone. Each participant simply dials into a predetermined number at the agreed time. You need no new equipment and you pay no money up front. It's that easy.

The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can have a meeting with as many people as you want, at any time, wherever they are in the world. You'll find it particularly useful for small groups, and for allowing one person to speak to larger numbers (e.g. sales force briefings).

**Try Conference Call free for an hour.\***

The only way to appreciate the convenience of Conference Call is to try it. As a new customer you can have an hour long Conference Call for up to six people anywhere in the UK, absolutely free.

There's a free Factsheet which tells you how to set up your first free Conference Call. It includes useful tips to help make sure everything runs smoothly.

Why not change the way we work? **BT**

Freefone 0800 800 004 and quote T102B for your free Conference Call.

The offer applies to a Freefone 0800 1 hour dial-in attended Conference Call for up to 6 participants in the UK. The service charges £1.20 per participant per minute. Conference charges £2.10 per participant per minute and UK call charges £0.09 per participant per minute are included in the offer. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer from BT. Conference Call is available to all BT customers. Prices are valid as of 1 March 1998 and 1 June 1998 and applies to new account customers. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer from BT. Conference Call is available to all BT customers. Prices are valid as of 1 March 1998 and 1 June 1998 and applies to new account customers. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer from BT. Conference Call is available to all BT customers. Prices are valid as of 1 March 1998 and 1 June 1998 and applies to new account customers.

## Clubhaus to develop new leisure centres

CLUBHAUS, the golf course operator, is planning to spend about £18 million over the next two years developing leisure centres at nine of its 17 golf clubs. As a result of the development programme, the group's board, whose non-executive directors include David Lloyd, the leisure entrepreneur, has decided not to pay a dividend for 1997.

Full-year profits before tax and exceptional items jumped from £1.5 million to £4.3 million thanks largely to the addition of nine golf clubs at a cost of £36.3 million. The profits result was better than that expected by the City. Net earnings per share reached 5.3p, compared with 3.6p last year, and turnover advanced from £7.3 million in the previous year to £17.9 million. Charlie Parker, managing director, said Clubhaus was planning to launch its own range of branded merchandise, including clubs and bags, under the Hauris brand. This would be followed by the launch of its own mail-order catalogue in June this year. The catalogue will be sent to the 100,000 names on the Clubhaus database.

## Vision losses continue

SHARES in Vision Group fell 23p to 76p yesterday, and touched a low of 66p at one stage, after the electronic technology business said it would continue to incur an operating loss in the second half despite an increase in revenues. In the six months to the end of January the company incurred losses of £2.56 million before tax compared with a profit of £12,090 in the first half of the previous year. Losses were 6.8p a share, against earnings of 0.34p previously. Again, there is no dividend.

## Paramount recovers

PARAMOUNT, the tenants pub group, returned to profit in the first half as the benefits of a major overhaul by new management started to take effect. It reported a pre-tax profit of £81,000 in the six months to November, 30 compared to losses of £1.17 million, on turnover down from £2.87 million to £2.47 million. The 1996 figures were restated after the board decided there had been "substantially overstated". In November, the group reported a full-year loss of £1.4 million due to bad debts and write-downs.

## Bowthorpe buys GEI

BOWTHORPE, the electronics group, has agreed to acquire General Eastern Instruments, a division of America's High Voltage Corporation, for a maximum consideration of \$21 million (£12.5 million). GEI, which is based in Massachusetts, supplies humidity calibration equipment and humidity sensors. GEI is expected to earn profits of \$2 million before tax and amortisation for goodwill in the year to April 26. The company's net assets are estimated at \$2.65 million.

## Buy-outs near record

THE value of management buy-outs and buy-ins in the first quarter of this year was £2.5 billion, an increase of 19 per cent over the same period last year. However, this is not quite a record, because there were deals worth £2.7 billion struck in the first quarter of 1997. A survey of deals worth £10 million or more by KMG, the accountants, shows that the number of transactions rose from 54 to 73 with the largest deal in the quarter being the £860 million sale of IPC Magazines to a combined buy-out and buy-in.

The UK Index-Tracking PEP

# Highest

The All-Share Tracking PEP that's charged the least, has performed the best.

0500 11 66 22

Legal & General

Legal & General is a member of the Lloyds Banking Group. The company is authorised by the Financial Services Authority. The company is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The company is a member of the Financial Services Authority. The company is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The company is a member of the Financial Services Authority. The company is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.



# PolyGram warning rebounds on EMI

By CHRIS AVRES

SHARES of EMI Group, the UK music company, fell yesterday in response to a surprise warning by PolyGram one of its main competitors, that profits will be hit by the Asian financial crisis.

## BASF to seek shares buy-in

FROM CARL MORTSHOFEN IN LUDWIGSHAFEN

BASF, the German chemicals group, is seeking permission from investors to buy in its shares in an attempt to improve the rate of return.

The cash-rich company, which yesterday announced a 21 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to DM5.3 billion (about £1.75 billion), has more than DM1 billion of cash in the bank. Max Kley, BASF director, admitted that BASF gearing was too low and the company is targeting a rate of return of 13 per cent.

A 10 per cent share buy-in would cost BASF DM4.6 billion at the current share price, but the company needs to await new legislation expected to be passed in the autumn.

multimillion-selling album, in the first quarter of last year.

But in Amsterdam PolyGram's shares fell 11 per cent to 95.1 guilders (£30). EMI shares fell 9.2p to 525p. The company gave warning in January that consumer confidence in Asia had "dropped like a stone".

One leading London investment bank is already thought to have downgraded EMI's profits by 4 per cent. The fall in share price and the emerging problems in Brazil added to the mounting troubles of Sir Colin Southgate, EMI's chairman, who is under attack for spending too much time on his outside job running the Royal Opera House.

The poorly performing company is also suffering from unresolved management issues and the impending resignation of its US chief executive, Jim Fifield. Mr Fifield is expected to receive a £12 million compensation package.

PolyGram's announcement followed concern by analysts that the company was taking the Asian crisis too lightly. Some had also worried about the lack of big names on its music release schedule.

But Alain Levy, PolyGram's president, argued that the problems were short term: "Our music performance in the first three months reflects the impact of timing in a release-driven, creative business which reports quarterly."

"On a full-year basis, we have no indication that conditions in the music market should cause us to be pessimistic," he said. He pointed out that major releases from artists such as Sheryl Crow would come later in the year and that overall sales were in line with last year.

He added that the company's film business, which continues to make heavy losses, would reach "critical mass" next year.



Smiling faces: John Theakston, chief executive with Colin Archer, finance director

# Swan Hill returns to black after successful restructure

By MARTIN BARROW

SWAN HILL Group yesterday reported its first annual profit since 1994 as it emerges from a lengthy restructuring.

The company, whose chief executive is John Theakston, reported pre-tax profits of £2.79 million for the year to December 31, compared with losses of £3.87 million in the previous 12 months. Earnings were 11.7p a share, against losses of 7.4p last time.

The company, formerly known as Higgs & Hill, has shed its construction activities to focus on housebuilding and commercial property. The 1997 results include a £4.2 million surplus from disposals. At the operating level the company earned profits of £4.9 million, compared with losses of £4 million in 1996.

Disposals accounted for the sharp fall in turnover to £88.37 million from £345.2 million.

Swan's housing business is stronger in the South East, where it enjoyed a rise in the average sale price to £105,000 from £95,000, with 363 homes built.

Its Carter Commercial Developments subsidiary completed seven projects during the year. Net assets increased to £79 million from £68.7 million representing 115p per share, the company said. The shares rose 5.5p to 89.5p yesterday.

Net assets increased to £79 million from £68.7 million representing 115p per share, the company said. The shares rose 5.5p to 89.5p yesterday.

Net assets increased to £79 million from £68.7 million representing 115p per share, the company said. The shares rose 5.5p to 89.5p yesterday.

# Macfarlane packs 8% profit rise

Macfarlane Group (Clansman), the packaging group, reported an 8 per cent rise in 1997 pre-tax profits, to £22 million, on sales up 23 per cent to £193.4 million.

The company said that record profits were achieved despite restructuring costs resulting from the acquisition of Amalgamated Plastics and relocation of a subsidiary.

Earnings per share rose to 12.23p, from 11.38p. A 2.95p final dividend makes a total of 4.5p, up 10 per cent. The shares rose 8.5p to 142.5p.

Lord Macfarlane is to step down as chairman in May, to be succeeded by John Ward, a non-executive director since 1996. Lord Macfarlane will be a non-executive director for a year before becoming life president.

## Unilever deal

Unilever has paid an undisclosed sum for a controlling stake in Moskovsky Margarinovy Zavod, a leading Russian producer of margarine and mayonnaise. Unilever said it would invest £20 million in the next few months to develop the business and to bring its production facilities up to Western standards. Unilever has already made forays into Russia, introducing its margarine and buying a Russian cosmetics firm.

## Oriflame dips

Oriflame, the international door-to-door cosmetics group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £43.2 million to £39.9 million in the year to December 31 after restatement to cover the merger with Oriflame Eastern Europe. Sales rose from £215 million to £252.8 million. Earnings per share fell to 31.3p, from 34p, but the total dividend rises to 15.9p (15.7p) after a 12p final. Oriflame said that true growth in local currency terms was 20 per cent.

## Quicks ahead

Quicks, the car dealer, raised pre-tax profits from £5.2 million to £6.2 million in the year to December 31 on sales up by 5 per cent to £385 million. Adjusted earnings per share rose from 13.7p to 14.4p, out of which the total dividend for the year rises by 11 per cent to 7.75p, after payment of a 4.5p final. Michael Moore, chairman, said: "We have made a strong start to the year."

# Kyte-flying



"RATS deserting the sinking ship" was my informant's explanation of David Kyte, chairman of Kyte Group, from the board of Liffe, and Kyte himself, although not one of life's rodents, was equally vituperative. Much of what he said about Jack Wigglesworth and Daniel Hodson does not bear repeating, but he has no faith in the chairman and chief executive or in the present structure of the board.

There are, or were until he quit, 25 members, and the pressures of their respective diaries have meant that board meetings have been badly attended — at the last one, he claims, only 11 people were left in the room to take the vote.

As a result, the decision to cut rates to compete with Frankfurt should have been made in December. The fact that it wasn't is disgraceful. I'm quite happy to make decisions — I do it for a living. The big problem is that nobody on the board can, and as a result we're getting deeper and deeper into the mire.

Kyte has worked with four chairmen. His departure is a measure of the ill-feeling at Liffe ahead of the crucial members' vote in May. My sources say the chances of a move to the new offices at Spitalfields are now virtually nil. But no one dare admit it.

WITH the deadline for Pep applications just a week off, Perpetual has kindly provided a checklist of the ten most common errors on application forms submitted by investors. Yes, I suppose not signing the cheque might cause a bit of a hold-up, as might a failure to nominate any actual investments. But I was struck by the second most common mistake: "No application form was received". In which case, how did they know?

## Paper chase

THE annual report of Triodos, the European ethical bank, arrives. But I find no mention of recycled paper. Surely a bank that pontificates on environmental issues would use nothing else? How many rainforests have perished to keep all those ecology-conscious investors in touch? A call confirms that Triodos uses environmentally friendly paper made from the trimmings of forests. The bits that the trees are happy to donate to such a good cause. So that's all right then.

"SENSIBLE banking in a mad, mad world", we are promised from the Alliance & Leicester's £2 million advertising campaign. "A fun campaign linked to eccentric pastimes". One wonders

when banks will learn that we like them to be serious and sober, rather than frivolous and fun-loving. The A&L, in the 1980s, used to use Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie, but those worthies must be way out of its price bracket, because the next campaign will feature country pursuits including cheese rolling, bog snorkelling and dwyle flonking. Except that the last was the invention of a 1960s — correct me if I am wrong — comedy series. And it is spelled dwyle flonking. "Unfortunately all the information provided to me was incorrect," admitted my man at the Alliance & Leicester.

## Brain drain

ON APRIL 1 the Select Committee on Science and Technology was to consider the subject of the brain drain. Their expert witnesses were to be the heads of two of Britain's biggest exporters, whose success is founded on the exploitation of the country's intellectual assets. Alas, the committee has suffered a bit of a brain drain itself, because Jan Leschly, of SmithKline Beecham, has pulled out for unspecified reasons. So depriving us all of a promising confrontation with the other witness, Sir Richard Sykes, of Glaxo Wellcome, with whom he is no longer on speaking terms after the collapse of the merger talks. A failure that might yet cost both men their jobs, as the only way of getting the merger back on track.

MARTIN WALLER



Sykes misses a chance to lock horns with Leschly

# BTR delays £500m handout to avoid tax

By JASON NISSE

BTR yesterday said it would hold off returning the last £500 million of its £2 billion cash handout to shareholders until after advance corporation tax (ACT) is abolished at the start of April next year.

The move will ensure BTR avoids having to pay around £125 million of

ACT, which would have been due in a normal share buy-back.

The group is working with its tax advisers to minimise the costs of the first £1.5 billion handout, which is due to be completed in the first half of this year. BTR has said it would give back £2 billion to shareholders from the proceeds of the £4 billion sell-off it announced last autumn.

Yesterday the group sold MBCL its US metal building components business, for \$550 million (£330 million), bringing the total amount raised so far in the disposal programme to £3.7 billion. BTR still has three operations to sell — a Japanese building products company, an Australian polymer business and a distribution operation. These should bring the total proceeds

from the great BTR sell-off to more than £4 billion, significantly more than the City had expected.

The £2 billion left after the cash handout is to be reinvested in BTR's engineering businesses as part of the company's attempt to refocus.

Ian Strachan, chief executive of BTR, said the MBCL disposal "leaves us well ahead of schedule".

A NEW WAY TO FLY TO OVER 200 CITIES IN THE U.S.

New nonstop service to Philadelphia and Charlotte from London Gatwick.

US AIRWAYS



Small businesses are the backbone of Britain. But did the Budget give them a boost? Rodney Hobson introduces a financial report

# It's goodbye to boom and bust

The Budget is a confidence booster for small firms, business advisers generally agree. It helps to improve the climate for companies to invest and for financial backers to retain their investments for the long term.

The overall burden of taxation on small businesses has been eased, they feel. The reductions in corporation tax and capital gains tax have been particularly welcomed. Mike Warburton, the senior tax partner at Grant Thornton, says: "This modernising Budget encourages entrepreneurship and rewards work. For the first time in many years it is efficient in tax terms to retain value in the business rather than withdraw it."

But he adds a word of caution: "The cut in corporation tax cannot hide the damage being done to some medium-sized companies by the introduction of quarterly accounting. A private company with taxable profits of £2 million will benefit by £20,000 from lower corporation tax, but the additional cost of financing quarterly tax payment early will cost it £50,000. In real terms it will be £30,000 worse off."

Other measures that could help, however, are the proposed merger of the Contributions Agency and the Inland Revenue, and the abolition of National Insurance for those earning less than £81 a week. This measure, to be introduced in April next year, could offset the effect of a minimum wage. Employers of part-time staff can use their saving on employers' NI contributions to raise wages marginally or to offer longer hours.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales is among organisations that welcomes the Budget, but expresses reservations about some of the detail. Exempting medium-sized companies from paying corporation tax in instalments will help to create a more stable environment for business, it says.

Peter Bickley, the secretary to the tax faculty at the institute, says: "We have mixed feelings about this Budget. We think the Chancellor is moving in the right direction by, for example, shifting the burden of national insurance to encourage

gains tax for assets held for less than ten years.

Among the sternest critics is Peter Ibbotson, the head of small business services at NatWest. He says: "A long-term strategy for stable economic growth is positive news for small businesses who suffered the boom and bust economic conditions of the past, but this on its own is not enough if the Chancellor is to encourage enterprise."

"If the Government's welfare to work scheme is to succeed it will do so on the back of small businesses. More than half the working population is now employed in the small business sector. Currently the tax system gives small company directors more incentive to take profits out rather than retaining them in the company. While small companies are earning more profits, reflecting the improvement in economic conditions, these are not being ploughed back into the business to build for the future."

Mr Ibbotson feels that neither the 1p reduction in corporation tax nor the ten-year capital gains tax measures will change the position substantially. He wants to see a tax-free allowance of £5,000 or 25 per cent of profits, whichever is higher, left in the business each year.

He says: "Small businesses are quite simply not reinvesting surplus cash. The Bank of England's report in January expressed concern at the vulnerability of small businesses in 'less' good economic conditions. It said that if businesses did not retain surplus profits then the jobs created now may not be sustainable in the long term."

**'If the welfare to work scheme succeeds it will be on the back of small businesses'**

lower-paid employment. But we believe that this will increase the cost for many businesses, particularly in the information technology industry whose NIC burden increases by more than 20 per cent."

The institute feels that the extension of a 40 per cent rate of capital allowances for another year is a short-term palliative that does little to encourage additional investment. It would be better for the higher rates to apply for the remainder of parliament, it says.

The institute also has mixed feelings about the changes to capital gains tax. While welcoming the rate reduction for assets held for more than ten years, it says this did not retain surplus profits then the jobs created now may not be sustainable in the long term.



Open All Hours: the TV portrayal of a small business and, below, express services speed up deliveries



## Express delivery is the new battlefield

Britain's small businesses have never had so much choice in express delivery services. Competition among distribution companies provides a sometimes bewildering array of options to satisfy their delivery needs.

Even occasional users can shop around for the fastest and most cost-effective service and often expect guaranteed door-to-door deliveries by the start of the next day — and not just to British destinations. Some of the fiercest competition in the "next day" market is for overnight services to Europe.

Only 15 or 20 years ago even British deliveries of parcels and packages could take several days and there was little expectation of anything better. Then competition intensified and air-express services grew apace.

Speed and frequency are particularly important for firms that now routinely operate "just in time" systems to replenish their stocks. For them, a reliable express carrier can be harnessed as an integral part of their supply-chain management operations, not just for deliveries, but also for warehousing and order processing.

The international carrier DHL says that while many smaller businesses are likely to be occasional users of express services, they are a large and growing sector of the market. Steve England, DHL's market manager, responsible for occasional users, says: "They are looking for simplicity and reliability first time around and they expect the same quality of service as frequent users."

DHL has 65,000 regular customers in the UK and carries more than 15 million shipments a year. About 90 per cent of its business is in international distribution and it claims to have a 58 per cent share of the £350 million a year air-express market.

Mr England says that with more smaller firms involved in exports, their expectations for air-express services are growing. The express-delivery companies are also examining how best to cater for the growing number of people who work from home.

Mr England says: "We need to reshape what we offer in order to deal with the challenges. Moving into residential areas to cater for home-workers is a challenge in terms of both geographical coverage and delivery times."

All the big players in the delivery business are employing the latest technology in their attempts to offer more value-added services to customers. Computerised mailroom management systems, track and trace technology to monitor shipments, and electronic data interchange for commercial dealings with the carriers are all being employed in the battle for custom.

TNT Worldwide Express has recently launched an Internet facility to simplify collection for customers, which it claims is useful for small to medium-sized businesses located away from daily collection routes. It allows customers to use the World Wide Web to order a collection, at any time in the first stage of a complete Internet booking service. TNT has also recently expanded its next-day delivery service, Euro 1, to reach almost 700 cities and towns in Europe.

The global nature of express distribution has had a notable impact on Parcelforce, the Royal Mail's parcel post service. As Parcelforce Worldwide, it is extending its reach beyond Britain, to deliver to about 240 countries. It has launched a logistics division to provide supply-chain management functions for customers. Jon Wilkinson, the head of marketing and sales for Parcelforce Logistics, says: "We can handle many of our clients' needs for call centre management, inbound supplies, warehousing, distribution or even cash logistics."

TONY DAWE

CRAIG SETON

## BT opens door to Internet for firms

TELECOMS

A new information service on the Internet for small and medium businesses has begun trials this week.

British Telecom's Connect to Business is a monthly subscription service offering e-mail, unlimited access to the Internet, up to ten megabytes of web-space and around-the-clock news from the Press Association.

Customers can also access information from The Dialog Corporation's small business information service, including stock market prices, foreign currency exchange rates and company snapshots.

A key feature is a set of simple website templates which enable even computer novices to create their own company websites in a matter of minutes and reach millions of potential customers.

"The service will make the Internet more relevant and useful for the small and medium business market," says Sue Davidson, British Telecom's director of business connections.

"Our research shows that customers in the UK are keen to take advantage of Internet and online technology, but are waiting for a service that helps them build a business case for the cost and time involved in setting themselves up."

"Connect to Business is our response to customer demand: a simple, easy-to-use service that holds all relevant business tools in one place."

TONY DAWE

# Entrepreneurs harvest new profits

The countryside is not just for farmers, says Bill Norris

Shepton Mallet is archetypal rural England, 7,500 souls in a tight-knit huddle of grey stone houses set among fields of green. There is an ancient church, a market cross with gory memories of the Monmouth Revolution of 1685, and the grim walls of the oldest working prison in Britain.

Not the sort of place to expect a burgeoning climate for small business, but the entrepreneurs of Shepton Mallet and the surrounding area are doing very nicely, thank you. "Small", in this context, tends to be very small: the average small business here employs fewer than five people.

Nonetheless, most are thinking of expanding over the next three years, and it is in this sector that Malcolm Williams, the Mendip District Council official responsible for economic development, sees the greatest potential for further growth.

Mendip, which covers the towns of Glastonbury, Street, Frome and Wells, in addition to Shepton Mallet, has a strong manufacturing base. Country it may be, but the concerns which drove thousands to London on the Countryside March earlier this month find few reflections here.

The place has always been resilient. In Shepton, when the



Protest and production: while rural folk campaign, BES is providing new jobs in the country



Huguenot weavers succumbed to the Industrial Revolution, the brewers arrived. When the cattle market left town, in came light industry. And now one of the old breweries houses the headquarters of Mulberry, the international leather goods company, while the other two have been converted into homes for a variety of small businesses. Nor has alcohol been abandoned: a northeast wind

### ENTERPRISE

waits the sweet tang of fermenting apples from the thriving cider factory across the town.

ICI and BT are here, but it is the like people who are creating the underground revolution. These such as Jeff Gibson, a former TV engineer and his wife Gill, who founded BES Electronics Ltd as a

consultancy in 1982 and have been manufacturing control panels for television stations around the world for the past nine years.

Today they have a staff of 22, conduct their own training programme for employees and have a steadily rising turnover of £1,500,000. Right now they are looking for two more production workers and an additional secretary of the design staff.

The Gibson family has been trading in the electronics business since 1960. The American-born couple, who moved to Britain in 1965, started at home with a small workshop in the back of their house. The business grew steadily and by 1982 they had moved to a new premises in Frome, Somerset.

Mr Gibson says: "We have been very fortunate in the past 12 years. The American market is very competitive and we have had to be very competitive in our own market. We have had to invest in new technology and equipment to stay ahead of the competition."

Mr Gibson says: "We have been very fortunate in the past 12 years. The American market is very competitive and we have had to be very competitive in our own market. We have had to invest in new technology and equipment to stay ahead of the competition."

Mr Gibson says: "We have been very fortunate in the past 12 years. The American market is very competitive and we have had to be very competitive in our own market. We have had to invest in new technology and equipment to stay ahead of the competition."

Mr Gibson says: "We have been very fortunate in the past 12 years. The American market is very competitive and we have had to be very competitive in our own market. We have had to invest in new technology and equipment to stay ahead of the competition."

Mr Gibson says: "We have been very fortunate in the past 12 years. The American market is very competitive and we have had to be very competitive in our own market. We have had to invest in new technology and equipment to stay ahead of the competition."

## Go on, take a screen test

Owner-managers are discovering the benefits of being online

John Harris, chairman of the Federation of Small Businesses' information technology committee, says: "Business people in early or late middle age who were not brought up with computers see how marvellous the kids are with them and are frightened to show their ignorance," he says.

"It is also difficult for them to find time to learn about the technology and the programs

which might suit their business. But if they make the effort, they will be rewarded many times over by the savings which computers can bring, whether in accounting, invoicing, mailing letters or stock control."

Joe Macri, who heads Microsoft's small business customer

unit, says: "Our research shows that 60 per cent of our sales to small businesses go through local dealers so we are investing in a scheme to bring them up to speed with our products. In the first year, we have trained 10,000 individuals from 5,000 dealers but that still leaves 20,000 dealers to target."

Microsoft has updated its MS Office small business edition software, after consulting leading

business associations. The package now includes a word processor, spreadsheet, financial management system and desktop manager combining e-mail, diary, contacts and tasks list.

The company works with all the leading computer makers, including Compaq, Dell and Hewlett Packard to deliver its systems. "The most expensive element in any profit and loss account are people and time, and we are convinced that computers will cut out many of the laborious tasks and free staff to be more creative," says Patricia Riebel, Hewlett Packard business manager.

TONY DAWE

CRAIG SETON

# For Small Businesses - only 76p per day.

Lease this HP Brio PC featuring a 233 MHz Intel processor and monitor for just 76p per day, or with a Pentium® II processor - for around £1 per day\*

<b>HP Brio 8017</b> 233 MHz Pentium® II processor 16MB RAM • 3.2 GB disk • 2MB video • 15" monitor	<b>£699 exc. VAT</b> <b>76p per day</b>	<b>£822 inc. VAT</b>
<b>HP Brio 8336</b> 333 MHz Pentium® II processor 16MB RAM • 3.2 GB disk • 2MB video • 15" monitor	<b>£939 exc. VAT</b> <b>103p per day</b>	<b>£1,104 inc. VAT</b>

The HP Brio PC is designed specifically for small to medium businesses. And now Hewlett-Packard have designed this leasing deal specifically for your bottom line. The Brio is packed with the very latest features and for your peace of mind it comes with Hewlett-Packard's industry leading telephone support and on-site warranty. Call today - while this offer lasts.

\*This offer is dependent upon a minimum lease contract value of £1,000, and is open to limited companies only.

HP Office Centre  
HEWLETT PACKARD  
To order phone **0990 474747**  
www.hp.com/sbpc/au



# High taxes keep the smugglers in business

The ever-soaring tax on tobacco is not a health issue, it is an economic issue for corner shops, argues the Tobacco Alliance, the representative of 26,000 independent retailers.

Paul Mason, the alliance's national spokesman, says: "Once again the Chancellor has not done anything for retailers. We are the cornerstone of the economy, but every Budget is the same."

Like alcohol, tobacco is more heavily taxed here than on the Continent. With the introduction of the single European market in 1993, the buying of lower-duty goods across the English Channel to be brought back to Britain has been legal — but only for personal use. As tax rates rise, the temptation to reimport tobacco and alcohol illegally has grown.

While alcohol has grabbed the headlines and some degree of public sympathy, tobacco remains a pariah, tainted by the link with lung cancer. It is estimated that 75 per cent of hand-rolled tobacco is now imported by smugglers. The reason is simple. A 50g pouch that costs more than £7 in the UK can be purchased in Belgium for the equivalent of about £1.70.

The price gap for cigarettes is smaller but growing. Gordon Brown's first Budget last June added 19p to a packet of 20 cigarettes from December, taking the tax content of the recommended

**Rodney Hobson on the retailers whose profits are going up in smoke**

retail price for a premium brand cigarette to 78 per cent. The latest Budget will add a further 20p a packet from next December.

By its very nature, the extent of smuggling is difficult to quantify, but industry estimates suggest that last summer 2 per cent of cigarettes smoked in the UK were being brought in from the Continent — legally and illegally — and that the figure has risen to 3 per cent.

Mr Mason is not only the spokesman for the Tobacco Alliance. He also knows life at the sharp end — he runs a village shop at Swanmore, Hampshire, near enough to the ports of Southampton and Portsmouth to experience the effects of smuggling.

He admits that he and his fellow members are getting used to the idea that tax on tobacco will continue to go up faster than inflation. "In the past that did not matter as much," he says. "The price went up, we all moaned and groaned and the retailers took the brunt of the complaints from the

public — but the customers had to pay for it. Now the price difference between here and the Continent is so great that people will buy from the black market."

Mr Mason argues that chancellors have realised that they have lost the revenue from hand-rolled tobacco. That is why the tax on that type of tobacco has been frozen for the past three years.

"Chancellors have thought that the cigarette market in the UK was safe. They were wrong," he says. "Smugglers can add £5 to a carton of cigarettes and still sell them £10 cheaper than I can sell them for — and the gap is getting wider and wider. There's enough margin for people to think it is worthwhile smuggling. We have definitely lost jobs, livelihoods, businesses..."

Efforts to sell other products to compensate does not solve the problem, Mr Mason adds. Cigarettes bring in customers who then buy newspapers, sweets and milk. National Lottery outlets have been some help, but not all small retailers sell tickets.

The Tobacco Alliance sent Christmas cards to all MPs and got 25 sympathetic responses. "You need a reason to go into a shop. Cigarettes are a traffic builder," Mr Mason says. "When the small retailers have all gone, people will say, why didn't we do anything to help them?"



No joke: hundreds of these cards were sent to MPs by the Tobacco Alliance on behalf of 26,000 independent retailers of tobacco

## Budget offers some grate expectations



The big cheese: Robert Segesser, encouraged by Budget

Gordon Brown's spring Budget has brought an enthusiastic response from one small-business owner, Rodney Hobson writes. Robert Segesser, the managing director of Dairyborn Foods, says: "We are particularly encouraged by the capital allowances and absolutely delighted to see a reduction in corporation tax."

"This Budget provides just the right level of incentive for investors interested in becoming involved in businesses like Dairyborn and the confidence to leave their money to grow with us in the future. It is a much-needed boost to British business."

Dairyborn produces cheese for food manufacturers and caterers throughout Britain and Europe. It is the type of growing business on which the Government has built its employment hopes. The company has developed from humble beginnings in a converted butcher's shop in Luton, Bedfordshire, 15 years ago. There three people grated cheese, a revolutionary idea at the time. The first customers were Pizzaland, Pizza Hut and Perfect Pizza.

As the company grew it moved into the old Co-operative Dairy in the town where there was ten times the space. Over the next decade it developed a range of grated, sliced, diced, portioned, creamed and liquid cheeses and customers expanded to include sandwich producers, hotels and restaurant chains. House-hold names such as Campbell's Soups, McCains and Birds Eye joined the client list along with supermarket chains including Marks & Spencer, Tesco, Sainsbury, Asda, Waitrose, Iceland and Harrods.

Turnover was £125 million last year, when Dairyborn was named business of the year in Bedfordshire's Bus-

ness Excellence Awards, and is projected to grow to £15 million in 1998.

Mr Segesser says: "If you ever buy a ready meal like a lasagne, or have an occasional cheese pie or pizza in the pub, or have been given a cheese sandwich at the end of the London Marathon, you have probably eaten our cheese. It has even been sent to Mickey Mouse in Eurodisney."

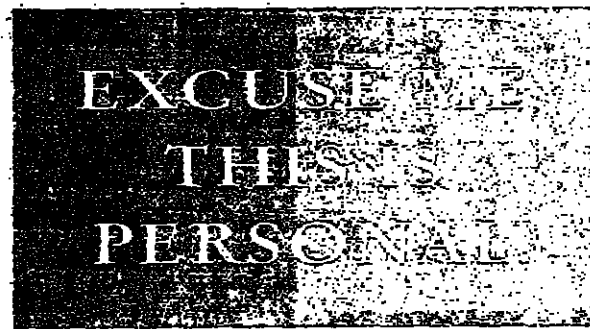
"It is good to see the Government encouraging smaller businesses like us. I feel that the Chancellor is reducing taxation where he can."

Dairyborn Foods invests £300,000 to £400,000 a year in new machinery, so capital allowances are an important feature of any Budget. Most equipment is tailor-made for Dairyborn and is the most advanced available, so it tends to be expensive.

"This Budget is bound to encourage investment," says Mr Segesser. "It will encourage us to buy machinery we might otherwise have deferred for another year. It is important for any business to invest for the future. It is one of the things that we as a country have not been too good at."

Investment translates into higher employment, Mr Segesser believes. Dairyborn now has 80 employees. He says: "We are expecting to take on more staff because we are growing substantially all the time. We are interested in the Government's new deal and will be recruiting people under the welfare to work programme."

He would also like to help single-parent families, but sees one big snag: "We did consider putting in a crèche and a nursery to help single mothers into work, but it was not economically viable. The Government will have to do more to help."



This may or may not be intended for you. You see, unlike direct mail, it's often hard to tell. But with a mailshot you know exactly what you want to say and who you want to send it to. Short of dropping in for a chat, it's one of the best ways to get your message across and it could help a small business like yours to grow and increase its profits. Just fill in the coupon or call us free on 0800 11 44 44 and we'll send you our Royal Mail information pack. (That's between you, us and the gatepost, you understand).

PLEASE SEND ME A FREE MAILSHOT INFORMATION PACK FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Business \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: Royal Mail, Direct Mail Promotion, FREEPOST, ROSS-ON-WYRE, Herefordshire HR9 7BR. Royal Mail may use these details to send you information on other interesting products and offers in the future. If you do not wish to receive this material please indicate this by placing a tick in the box.  EXC85



# Early losses halved

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1997/98 High	1997/98 Low	Company	Price	% Chg	P/E	1997/98 High	1997/98 Low	Company	Price	% Chg	P/E
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>											
510	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	510	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
511	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	511	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
512	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	512	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
513	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	513	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
514	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	514	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
515	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	515	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
516	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	516	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
517	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	517	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
518	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	518	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
519	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	519	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
520	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1	520	50	Aladin	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>BANKS</b>											
101	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	101	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
102	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	102	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
103	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	103	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
104	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	104	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
105	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	105	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
106	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	106	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
107	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	107	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
108	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	108	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
109	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	109	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
110	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1	110	100	Bank of Cyprus	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; REST</b>											
111	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	111	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
112	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	112	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
113	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	113	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
114	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	114	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
115	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	115	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
116	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	116	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
117	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	117	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
118	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	118	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
119	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	119	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
120	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1	120	110	Brewery	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>											
121	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	121	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
122	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	122	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
123	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	123	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
124	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	124	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
125	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	125	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
126	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	126	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
127	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	127	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
128	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	128	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
129	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	129	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
130	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1	130	120	Industrial	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>											
131	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	131	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
132	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	132	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
133	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	133	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
134	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	134	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
135	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	135	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
136	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	136	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
137	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	137	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
138	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	138	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
139	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	139	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
140	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1	140	130	Food	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>ENGINEERING VEHICLES</b>											
141	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	141	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
142	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	142	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
143	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	143	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
144	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	144	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
145	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	145	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
146	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	146	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
147	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	147	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
148	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	148	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
149	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	149	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
150	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1	150	140	Vehicle	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>ENGINEERING</b>											
151	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	151	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
152	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	152	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
153	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	153	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
154	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	154	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
155	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	155	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
156	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	156	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
157	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	157	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
158	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	158	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
159	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	159	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
160	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1	160	150	Engineering	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>											
161	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	161	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
162	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	162	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
163	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	163	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
164	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	164	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
165	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	165	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
166	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	166	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
167	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	167	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
168	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	168	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
169	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	169	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
170	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1	170	160	Healthcare	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>HOUSEHOLD GDS &amp; TEXT</b>											
171	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	171	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
172	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	172	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
173	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	173	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
174	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	174	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
175	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	175	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
176	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	176	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
177	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	177	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
178	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	178	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
179	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	179	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
180	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1	180	170	Household	1.15	-4.1	15.1
<b>INSURANCE</b>											
181	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	181	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
182	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	182	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
183	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	183	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
184	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	184	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
185	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	185	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
186	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	186	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
187	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	187	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
188	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	188	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
189	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	189	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1
190	180	Insurance	1.15	-4.1	15.1	190	180	Insurance	1.15		



Handwritten text at the top center of the page.

Main table containing unit trust prices, organized into columns with headers for fund names, prices, and other details.

Advertisement for 'Centrum SELECT 50+' featuring the slogan 'INVEST IN YOURSELF' and 'LIVE LIFE 100%'. The ad includes a list of 50 stocks and a small table of their prices.

Table of stock prices for the 50 stocks listed in the Centrum advertisement.

Footnote and disclaimer text at the bottom of the page, including '© 1998 by The Times' and 'All rights reserved'.









# Is there a doctor for the House?

Would the last person to leave the Royal Opera House kindly turn off the footlights? On Wednesday, Mary Allen quit as chief executive. It was the sort of shock resignation that shocks nobody. Last year she slid into the job after nothing more than a nod and a wink. Her notable lack of opera and ballet expertise has caused smirks and raised eyebrows ever since. Now she exits with tight lips and ashen brow. There's a kind of facial poetic justice to all that, I guess.

Nevertheless, she is the third chief executive to leave Covent Garden in a year. In that time the House of Ill-Repute has also managed to wave cheerio to its chairman, its board, its head of opera, its finance director, its senior press officer and even its legendary spin-doctor, silky Keith Cooper. Quite a casualty list.

Life at the Garden must now resemble Act V of some tortuous revenge tragedy. Corpses litter the stage. Some fell honourably on their swords. Some felt the quick, sharp stab of the dagger in the

back. Some slipped on banana skins helpfully dropped by star-turns in earlier scenes. A few simply crashed into the scenery out of pure incompetence.

No matter; they are all gone. At this point a wise dramatist would bring down the curtain, perhaps with an epilogue of stern moral admonishment in which the words "hubris" and "nemesis" would feature prominently. And the audience would be left to ponder the eternal riddle of opera houses: do they drive their inhabitants mad, or do you have to be mad to work there in the first place?

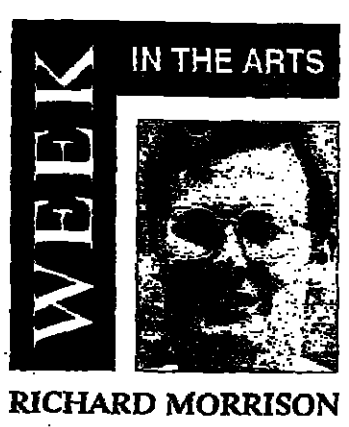
But the curtain carrier fall at Covent Garden: The public has invested millions in the redevelopment of the theatre, albeit unwillingly. Not only must this show go on, it must be vastly improved. How can that be achieved?

Last month I argued that it might be a good idea if the nation's

premier opera house was run by people who know a bit about opera. Amazingly, this crazy and heretical notion seems to have appealed to Sir Colin Southgate's new Covent Garden board. Allen is going, they say, because she is an "arts administrator" rather than an artistic director.

So far, so encouraging. But identifying a gap and hiring the right person are two very different things. If the board really wants a top-class opera-house boss who knows every dodge in the book, there are perhaps four or five people in the world who fit the bill. Not one of them would jump to seize this poisoned chalice. There's a lot of hard persuasion ahead.

But bringing in such a figure without also appointing a charismatic music director would be pointless. This week Bernard Haitink had heart surgery. For the sake of musical life generally, and



RICHARD MORRISON

specifically the Royal Opera's immediate future, one hopes that this wonderful conductor — as uplifting on the podium as he is gloomy in person — makes a fast recovery. But Haitink was always semi-detached from Covent Garden's

traumas (who could blame him?) and is likely to be even more remote now. The place needs a younger, more pugnacious, hands-on musical helmsman.

Again, such figures exist. Simon Rattle would be ideal. Riccardo Chailly or Valery Gergiev would be dynamite. Mark Elder has the bloody-minded determination needed to work magic in opera houses. But again one asks: what's the incentive for them to come to a place that has so little pride, confidence or sense of destiny?

That missing purpose is presumably what Sir Richard Eyre's committee is now trying to establish. It's a near impossible task. In the old days, you might not have liked what Covent Garden was: a snobby, semi-private cabaret for very rich patrons and snooty suits. But at least its place in the social fabric was clear. All that has been blown away by the crash

mistakes of the past two years, and by the whacking lottery grant. Public opinion will no longer tolerate huge handouts for such nests of cosy exclusivity.

But if Covent Garden isn't allowed to be that, what is it to be? An identical twin to ENO, except with surtitles and steeper bar prices? Such doubling-up doesn't make artistic or economic sense. Until somebody gives me a good answer to that basic question, I will continue to believe that the only way forward for publicly-subsidised grand opera in London is inside a single opera house.

Enough of Covent Garden's woes. Here's some good news. Yesterday a remarkable thing happened in the West End. Hundreds of teenagers were let in free to a matinee of Yasmina Reza's brilliant play *Art*. The actors donated their services, the

theatre (Wyndham's) waived its fee, and far-sighted sponsors enabled schools to receive study packs about the play. Afterwards the stars stayed to talk to the teenagers. And the producers (Sean Connery and David Pugh) promise more free matinees for teenagers in May and June. Now the Mousetrap Foundation, which administers the project, wants other West End producers to follow suit.

Let's hope for more than that. This example should be followed by every opera company, theatre, orchestra and dance group in the land. Too often, arts people have been willing to do such missionary work, provided that somebody else picked up the bill. Of course professional performers must be wary of being "exploited". On the other hand, if they don't bust a gut to get their message across to kids, why should anyone else?

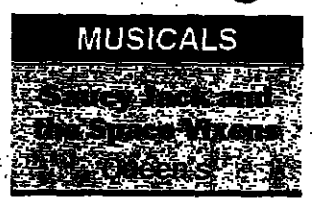
What *Art* pioneered yesterday the arts world should ungrudgingly emulate tomorrow. It could make the difference between renaissance and extinction.

# Beam me up and out, Scotty

One of the few advantages of being in outer space, I imagine, would be that it is very quiet and, in its way, very private. Maybe you could float beneath a billion stars wondering if the answer to the problems posed by the universe is indeed the number 42, as Douglas Adams suggested in his *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. But that's not the view of Charlotte Mann, Robin Forrest, Jonathan Croose and the other creators of this show. As soon as you enter the Queen's your ears and eyes are told that space is all ghostly metallic throbs, garish lights and rockets that look like aircraft carriers.

A moment later, and we are in Saucy Jack's nightclub, which is the sort of place that takes a thousand light-years to reach and most of us would go a million to avoid. It is a sleazy bar set in what seems to be a disused spacepod and toolled out with a small band playing loud, bland rock. Unsurprisingly, Vulva Savanna and the other singers have recently fallen victim to a serial killer. So enter the fuzz in the form of the Space Vixens, who turn out to be armoured cheesecake wearing silver boots and pointed iron bras. Their chief then reactivates an old amour with David Schofield's Saucy Jack, which is a pity, since he promptly commits a fifth murder, laying low a black-clad chick called Zesty or Chesty. I'm not sure which.

Late at night at the Edinburgh Festival, where (the



programme boasts) it won "a prestigious Fringe First award", this show might have served. Now it has completed "the long road to London's West End", its lack of charm, tension, wit and even sense is sadly exposed. There are a lot of double-entendres and songs so heavily milked you cannot twig the lyrics. A saxophonist gets off with a Vixen. A waiter and a visiting psychiatrist discover mutual happiness as plastic-underwear fetishists. A transvestite waitress called Booby, given to rapturous cries of "we can all dream but somehow we have got to have the faith to make it happen", is promoted to Vixenhood.

Is the shrink to be taken seriously when he ends up proclaiming "whoever you are, wherever you are, whatever your funk, let yourself groove onto a higher galaxy, head high, heart free? Who knows? All I could feel, as I grooved up Shaftesbury Avenue, was that my funk might have been Keith Strachan's energetic cast and could certainly have been that splendidly sinister actor, Schofield. But they would have to have been in another show."

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Letting it all hang out in cyberspace: Hannah Waddingham plays it subtle as Saucy Jack's lass, Chesty Prospects

# Showtime again

Foolishly I forgot to pack my scarlet corset and black fishnets, which meant I cut a sadly prosaic figure at the revival of this quaint cult show. We were all sternly forbidden to throw rice onto the stage when Frank N. Furter and Rocky (Jason Donovan, Ross O'Hennessy) celebrate their curious marriage.

but no threat known to fans can stop the raucously shouted comments on the dialogue. These interruptions are now as ritually precise as any of the words uttered by the cast. Whenever Michael Cashman's excellent Narrator, face and voice frozen in meticulous distaste, mentions poor affronted Janet's name the know-alls in the audience shout "Slut!". The name of her all-American fiancé Brad is followed by an epithet unprintable here.

One of the curiosities of the show is that even while what happens to these two innocents at the hands etc of the aliens from the planet Transsexual would desperately upset the lily nerves of David Blunkett, the language never employs an impure word. This occurs the show in sweet wraps of old-fashioned nostalgia. Donovan's Frank may lick his lips, flick his whips and twinkle his buttocks, but he never sends shivers down the spine.

The play-element was presumably always present, but initially the show must at least have seemed to be showing back the frontiers of decorum. But in this silver jubilee production, directed by Christopher Malcolm, a former Brad, the play-element rides over everything, leaving a sense of disappointment, even disenchantment, unless one is like those enthusiasts in the audience who are at a private show inside their heads.

The sounds they hear there could be more attractive than some of the on-stage screeching, though Simona Morecroft's Janet proves herself more than a mighty screamer when she starts her love ballad. Stuart de la Mere's Brad projects the right degree of fatuous optimism, weirdly striding towards his love like the front half of a giraffe.

In the second half the cast seemed to be wearying of the burlesqued pan-sexualism. However, you cannot argue with a cult but must just wait for the content to shrivel away, which in this case looks as if it won't be yet awhile.

JEREMY KINGSTON

# A Handel worth celebrating

The success or otherwise of the annual collaborations between Denys Darlow's London Handel Festival and the Royal College of Music must to an extent depend on the quality of the students, and Tuesday's performance in the college's Britten Theatre suggested a vintage year at the Royal Schools' Vocal Faculty. No problems with the music, of course; the only possible problem with *Radamisto* is musical indigestion. In the first, much revived success of Handel's first Royal Academy season, the opening act is so crammed with hit numbers that you fear the composer might have shot his bolt. But no, the level of inspiration is maintained throughout, leaving you breathless at the sheer prodigality of his genius.

Why is *Radamisto* comparatively seldom performed nowadays? Handel himself revived it so often that there are four separate versions. The LHF sensibly opted for the first, and Tuesday was indeed a "first" since 1720. And when audiences are supposed to demand naturalism, an opera in which a villain of blackest hue has a sudden change of heart in time for the final chorus does not immediately recommend itself. More important, Handel examines love in all its aspects with an

insight still unsurpassed. By making the soloists believe in everything they were doing, the producer Robert Chevara served Handel as well as he did Beethoven in his English Touring Opera *Fidelio*.

As can often happen in Handel, there was a friendly duel between two exceptionally gifted sopranos: Emma Bell in the title role and Jennie Such as Tigrane, his "good enemy. Both have beautifully pure voices and impressive techniques, and both relished their string of virtuoso arias depicting a truly Handelian variety of moods. The Asian mezzo Ee-Ping Yee brought soaring passion and warm, confident tone to the other "good" enemy, Fraarte, and the only possible reservation about Natasha Marsh's Polissena, is that her tone was too consistently bright. Maybe the 1720 *Zenobia* lies a little low for Rachel Wagner, but she coped. Mark Guerin sang the tenor villain, and José Gallisa his bass victim, their pitching at times unfocused but with bags of spirit. Darlow's London Handel Orchestra was on top form: the playing was light, springy and always expressive.

RODNEY MILNES

"...the film positively glows with originality and inventiveness." *Ryan Gilbey-The Independent*

"...an intoxicatingly handsome film." *Richard Williams-The Guardian*

"...a movie as intelligent and detailed in its vision as this is cause for celebration!" *Quentin Curtis-The Daily Telegraph*

ETHAN HAWKE UMA THURMAN JUDE LAW

GATTACA

There is no gene for the human spirit

NOW SHOWING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

WINNER 11 ACADEMY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE BEST DIRECTOR

JAMES CAWAPONT

THE BIGGEST FILM OF ALL TIME IN THE UK

LEONARDO DiCAPRIO KATE WINSLET

TITANIC

STILL SHOWING AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY



# Sugar but no Spice

Sporty Spice has made some ground but the music industry is still in the Fifties as far as women are concerned

There was a dreadful, dreadful moment two weeks ago, Friday evening. *Top Of The Pops*. Jo Whalley's presenting — you know, Britpop-blondie, presents *The Evening Session*, looks like a meerkat wearing lipstick. We're just "come out" of the Top Ten rundown — Cornershop, Space, Aqua. There's a tiny pause. Jo says: "And with Celine Dion, the Spice Girls and Madonna there, this week's the first time in ten years that the Top Three's been all-female."

Ten years? Ten actual years? Not dog years, or goldfish or mayfly years, but human ones? What kind of insane world is this, where 52 per cent of the population can only clutter up the Top Three once a decade? At a time when the Future Is Female, and little kids are shouting "Girl Power!" on the streets (even though they don't know what it means, and would just as happily shout "Nuclear Power!" "John Power!" or "Puppy Power!" — catchphrase from *The New Adventures of Scooby Doo*, this is awful.



CAITLIN MORAN

And more prosaically: what a massive, filthy lucrative market to be completely ignored. Chicks have both money and ears. Why aren't women — artists and audiences — grabbing their half of the Pop Pie? The answer was provided by the following week's *Top Of The Pops* — which is, big-questions-answered-wise, rapidly turning into the *I Ching* of the 20th century.

The music industry overlord for Women In Pop clearly ran out of fax paper while being faxed *Some Vital Points About Art, Point 3* — "Remember, Art should reflect reality for girls as well as boys" — is still stuck somewhere in the buffer. While Jarvis Cocker, Shaun Ryder, Bryan Adams, Thom Yorke and Tjinder from Cornershop happily represent all facets of male psyche, experience and appearance, I've yet to see a foppish, lardy, pock-marked, boss-eyed Asian girl playing filthy hip-hop prog-disco anywhere near my HMV. Alas for rock'n'roll — every medium is moulded by the mores rampant in the age of its invention, and pop still has its Fifties ethos attached to "women-folk". Pop chicks in the 1990s are completely unchanged from those in the 1950s — LeAnn Rimes is Helen Shapiro, and M People's Heather Small merely a bawling Ethel Merman in drag. How could any woman who read *Bridget Jones Diary* and worshipped Anna in *This Life* relate to them?

Since it is becoming embarrassingly clear that the music industry has fallen behind even ITV in its showing of women as anything other than clean, smiling, pliant, air-brushed anorexic *FHM* fodder (Vanessa Feltz and *Prisoner Cell Block H* span more feminine diversity than All Saints, Cleopatra and Kylie put together), some small acknowledgement had to be made. This is why the Spice Girls, for all their continuation of the marketing of women as ciphers, made such a splash. The Blonde, the Slut, the Amazon and the sultry extra from Robert Palmer's *Addicted To Love* video were all present and inevitable; but the Spice Girls expanded the Allowable Female Chart Repertoire by one: the astonishing New Invention of a Sporty Woman! We've never had a Sporty Woman before. In female pop terms, Sporty Spice is on a par with Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech. What pathos! What a tragedy for womankind that a tracksuit should mean so much!

Please, dear and benevolent God, let the Spice Girls work on A&R men in the same way that our Drug Tsar believes marijuana, High on "soft" stuff like Girl Power and its enormous lucrativeness, they could start longing for something a bit harder — a bit of Kristin Hersh, say, or Björk for the weekend. In a year's time they'll be caught up in the spiral: hooked on fierce stuff like Patti Smith, pushing Courtney Love to the public to pay for it, and as desperate as we are for a regular supply of real women.



If A&R men get hooked on soft Girl Power perhaps they'll soon want Courtney Love's harder stuff

# Heavy as a lead Zeppelin

When Jimmy Page and Robert Plant reunited to record a television show in 1994, the guitarist and singer were understandably reluctant to cast themselves as a nostalgic turn by simply trotting out Led Zeppelin's repertoire as originally recorded and fondly remembered.



LIVE GIG

Now though, with two albums as a duo — *Unledded* and *No Quarter* — behind them, and a collection of new songs, *Walking Into Clarksdale*, scheduled for release on April 20, they are obviously feeling more secure and, in the course of a memorable show at Shepherd's Bush Empire on Wednesday, Page and Plant opted to tackle the legacy of their past head on for the first time.

## NEW FACES: The seven-month walk to freedom of Maryam Mursal; a second crack at fame for James Grant

One can think of singers who are incapable of stumbling across the departure lounge at Heathrow without someone to hold their hand. Then there is Maryam Mursal, once Somalia's biggest star, who spent seven months walking across the Horn of Africa with her five children in order to bring her music to the world.



"It might take ten years, but one day things will get better," says singer Maryam Mursal of her homeland, Somalia

Mursal now lives in Denmark, but she is already familiar to British audiences, having played the Woman festival at Reading last year and then supported Nina Simone at the Barbican in December. She is an electrifying performer, but few who saw her were aware of the extraordinary story which lay behind her appearances.

# Have voice, will travail

Somalia was plunged into a tribal power struggle. The economy hit rock bottom and Mursal decided it was no longer safe. "I saw with my own eyes dogs eating human beings, animals eating dead bodies in the street. I knew that it was time to go."

# Goals in extra time

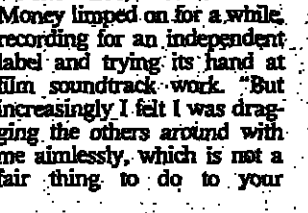
From time to time, two or three acts emerge from the same city and, lo, a musical movement is hailed. Most famously, it was Liverpool and Merseyside; more recently Swansea, Bristol and Manchester. Back in the mid-1980s Glasgow occupied the media spotlight.

produced by Steely Dan veteran Gary Katz in New York, and allegedly cost a hospital wing or two to make and promote. Sales totalled just 250,000 or so worldwide, though, even when boosted by an American hit, *Hallelujah Man*. It did not help that Grant, now 33, had no appetite for the corporate flesh-peddling necessary for a sustained major label career.

friends." Grant laughs — he's joking here — but the reality is that this was a profoundly unhappy period, and certainly a creative hiatus.

# ALAN JACKSON

James Grant, football fan, hoping for a result: this time



James Grant, football fan, hoping for a result: this time

ERIC CLAPTON FATHER'S EYES CREDIBLE NEW SINGLE NEW CD - CASSETTE ALBUM TRACKS CHANGE THE WORLD TAKEN FROM THE ALBUM 'PILGRIM' OUT NOW

UNTIL 26 APRIL Strindberg's Tragic-comedy DANCE OF DEATH PART 1 & 2 NEW IRISH VERSION Special WEEKEND performances of Parts 1 & 2 SATURDAY 4.30pm & 8.00pm SUNDAY 4.00pm & 7.30pm DOUBLE TICKETS £13.00

Over 1 Million people worldwide have seen this show... and here is your chance to hear why RAY DAVIES - THE STORYTELLER AVAILABLE ON CD FROM 23rd MARCH

bag of noise ASSORTS NEW PO... ALBUMS... TOP TEN ALBUMS... YANNI TRIBU... The music of... of a full orchestra... Yanni captures... Experience the... Hear It Now At All Our Stores



# A bag of liquorice allsorts

**ROLF KUHN & FRIENDS**  
*Affairs*  
 (Intuition Music INT 3211 2)  
 THE clarinet has undergone something of a revival in contemporary jazz of late, and the fact that its range has extended way beyond Dixieland and mainstream music is attributable to the technical skill and open-mindedness of practitioners such as the Leipzig-born Rolf Kuhn.

On this album, in addition to collaborating with fellow clarinetists Eddie Daniels and the veteran Buddy DeFranco on informally swinging straight-ahead fare, Kuhn also touches on the legacy of Monk and Mingus with trumpeter Randy Brecker, post-Coltrane jazz with saxophonist Dave Liebman, free improvisation with trombonist Albert Mangelsdorff, and — emulating his pianist

## JAZZ ALBUMS

brother Joachim — concludes the album by duetting with Ornette Coleman.

The result could have been something of a hodge-podge; fortunately Kuhn's commitment and virtuosity, plus the unfussy adaptability of his rhythm section — guitarist Chuck Loeb, bassist Dieter Eg, drummer Wolfgang Haffner — ensure that the music remains cogent whatever its style.

**CHRISTINE TOBIN**  
*House of Women*  
 (Babel EDV 9820)  
 THE Dublin-born singer Christine Tobin's previous two albums have both been highly eclectic affairs, embracing everything from traditional Irish songs, through Jobim and modern folk, to originals and songs set to existing jazz themes. *House of Women* is slightly less heterogeneous: the majority of its material consists of meditative Tobin compositions in which she uses the strength and purity of her voice to explore the emotional complexities of relationships, the popular images of women and related topics.

There is also a suitably troubling version of Leonard Cohen's *The Story of Isaac* and a stirring version of *Hey Joe* in which guitarist Phil Robson is given his head but, for the most part, the focus is on the matchless Tobin voice.

CHRIS PARKER

## TOP TEN ALBUMS

- (3) *Let's Talk About Love*.....Celine Dion (Epic)
- (2) *Titanic Soundtrack*.....James Horner (Sony Classical)
- (1) *Ray of Light*.....Madonna (Maverick)
- (4) *Life Thru a Lens*.....Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)
- (11) *Truly*.....Lionel Richie (Motown/Polygram TV)
- (1) *Best of James*.....James (Fontana)
- (7) *Urban Hymns*.....Verve (Hut)
- (8) *Left of the Middle*.....Natalie Imbruglia (RCA)
- (6) *Pilgrim*.....Eric Clapton (Duck)
- (14) *Postcards from Heaven/Lighthouse Family* (Wild Card)

Copyright © 1998

Figure in brackets denotes last week's position

# Bitter-sweet sympathy

**PULP**  
*This is Hardcore*  
 (Island 524 486 £15.99)  
 GIVEN their past form as one of the titans of Britpop, Pulp have struggled to match commercial expectations in recent months with *Help the Age* and *This is Hardcore*, the first two singles to be taken from their new album *This is Hardcore*. But that does not mean they are on the slide creatively. Both songs unfurl in slow, dramatic sweeps, their musical and lyrical themes defying pop orthodoxy — and the preferences of radio programmers — in a way that suggests Pulp have become a group for whom big hit singles are no longer a priority.

The impression is reinforced by the album itself, an ambitious collection that peers long and hard into the darker recesses of the psyche, written and organised with an overall coherence which in a different era would have had comment

tators reaching for the phrase "concept album".

Musically, it is the group's hardest hitting record yet, encompassing the sleazy rock'n'roll of *Party Hard*, the epic balladry of *The Fear* and the John Barry-style orchestral arrangement of the title track. But the essence of the album is defined by Jarvis Cocker's intriguing lyrics, which take a drab yet supposedly jaundiced look at a grab-bag of subjects most likely to affect the middle-aged pop star: ageing, sex and love, parenthood and fame.

Using pornography as a symbol for the shallow and predatory nature of too many relationships, the album strips away the veneer of social niceties in song after song, exposing the hollowness which Cocker perceives at the core of human existence. "You've nowhere to go, but you'll go there again," he sings

during *I'm A Man*, in a decadent drawl hovering somewhere between that of David Bowie and Scott Walker. "So please can I ask just why we're alive?"

Printed on the back of the CD insert is the maxim "It's OK to grow up, just as long as you don't grow old" and, while *This is Hardcore* is hardly a bundle of laughs, Pulp have definitely come of age with a challenging and theatrical masterpiece.

**THERAPY?**  
*Semi-Detached*  
 (A&M 540 891 £14.99)  
 AS THAT noted philosopher Homer Simpson once said, "Selling depression to teenagers is like shooting fish in a barrel." Which could explain the perennial appeal of Therapy?, who were welcomed back into the cliquy bosom of the *NME* Brat shows in January after an absence of nearly three years as if they had never been away, let alone sold more than a million copies of their last two albums.

For, while *Semi-Detached* finds them marching with a new punk-pop spring in their step after the stodgy, neo-

metal excesses of their 1995 album *Infernal Love*, Therapy's songs continue to be riven by thoughts of gut-wrenching misery and anguish. "The living germs keep these buildings alive/And every day we feed them with our dirt and rotten memories," Andy Cairns sings on *Safe*, an evocation of rampant paranoia saddled up, like most of his lyrics, to a short, strong tune, a chunky guitar sound and a colossal beat.

It is a supremely well-executed formula that has worked well enough in the past and Therapy? are clearly in no danger of running out of ammunition just yet.

**REBBIE JACKSON**  
*Yours Faithfully*  
 (MJJ Music/Epic 489713 £15.99)  
 THE eldest of the nine Jackson siblings, Rebbie (real name Maureen) picks up the threads of a fabled career which began when she temporarily joined the ranks of the post-Motown Jacksons in 1975. Now 47, her assets include a pleasant if unremarkable voice and the patronage of her brother Michael who, apart from owning the record company on which *Yours Faithfully* is released, also wrote, produced and supplied backing vocals on two of the album's songs: *Fly Away* and a

re-recording of *Centipede*, which was a minor American hit for Rebbie in 1984.

The title track — an airy, mid-tempo swingbeat tune with the refrain "Miss you more than ever/I will wait forever/Until we are together" — is typical of the album's production-line R&B sound and, while there is nothing obviously wrong with it, there is little to elevate *Yours Faithfully* above the crowd.

**VICTORIA WILLIAMS**  
*Musings of a Creekdipper*  
 (Atlantic 7567-83072 £15.49)  
 THE world knows Victoria Williams best for the album *Sweet Relief*, a compilation of

her songs recorded by other artists in 1993 as a way of raising funds to defray the Louisiana-born singer's medical expenses after she was diagnosed as suffering from multiple sclerosis.

But the story did not end there, and she has continued to write and record albums of her own, when her illness permits. *Musings of a Creekdipper* is a delightfully cranky but friendly collection of modern folk songs and lullabies in which thoughts and loosely connected musical ideas are strung together rather like jottings in a diary. From numbers ostensibly about horses, rabbits, hummingbirds and trees to a funky little rap lamenting the disappearance of trains with an old-fashioned caboose, this is an album whose wry, good-natured charm belies a much deeper spiritual strength.

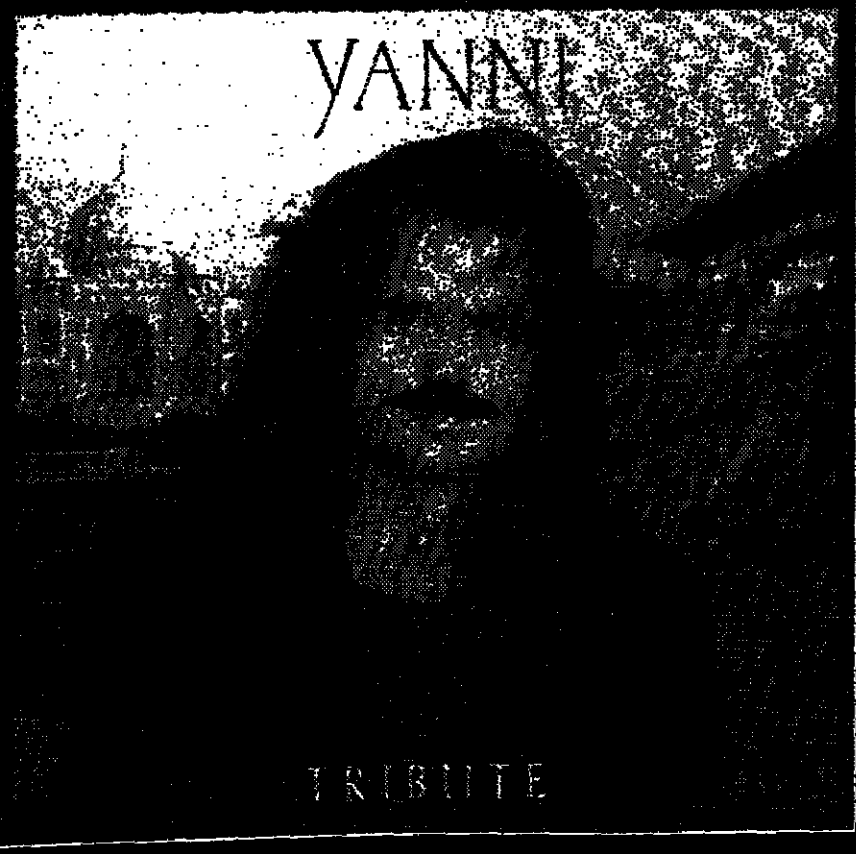
# YANNI TRIBUTE

Andys Records

The music of Yanni occupies a unique space where the power and range of a full orchestra are wrapped around melodies of heartfelt beauty.

Yanni captures the elegance and opulence of classical music and unites it with a global passion.


Experience the haunting melodies of one of the world's finest composers.




Hear It Now At All Our Stores

UK'S BEST INDEPENDENT RETAILER 93 94 95 96

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE BARRROW-IN-FURNESS BARNESLEY BEDFORD BEVERLEY BLACKBURN BOLTON BURY ST. EDMUNDS  
 CAMBRIDGE CANNOCK CHELMSFORD COLCHESTER DONCASTER GRIMSBY HALIFAX HEREFORD HULL IPSWICH RINGS LYNN  
 LANCASTER LICHFIELD LINCOLN LOUGHBOROUGH LOWESTOFT MANUSFIELD NORWICH OLDHAM PETERBOROUGH PRESTON  
 REDDALE SCARBOROUGH SOUTHPORT SHEFFIELD-MEADOWHALL WAKEFIELD WARRINGTON WIGAN WORCESTER



# the big finale




GEORGE MARTIN — IN MY LIFE

*In My Life* brings to a magnificent close the musical career of the most successful and inventive producer in the history of popular music. It includes some of the greatest Beatles songs ever formed with heroes and friends — people that George has always loved and admired — Robin Williams, Robbie Williams, Guinevere Hawn, Jeff Beck, Celine Dion, Vanessa Mae, Jay Chetty, John Williams, Billy Connolly, Phil Collins and Seth Connery.

Available at 100 stores nationwide or order by phone 0990 33 45 78

www.hmv.co.uk topdogformusic





Media Times

# Making a drama out of Channel 4's crisis

Running BBC Television's drama department is a poisoned chalice. This is why Gub Neal, the co-creator of ITV's police series, *Cracker*, twice turned down the job. Yet last year he agreed to take on what may be a tougher assignment as the man responsible for reviving drama at Channel 4.

Neal, aged 39, is the most important member of the creative team now beginning to reshape the network under the station's new chief executive, Michael Jackson.

When Jackson finally accepted the offer to run the station last May, one of his first actions was to appoint Neal and sack the existing head of drama, Peter Ansorge.

Jackson's decision spoke volumes about his attitude to Channel 4's recent contribution to small-screen fiction, of which *Mosley*, starring Jonathan Cake as the fascist leader, is but the latest example of a show that promised more than it actually delivered.

It's true, BBC2, the station's chief rival, has more money and resources to spend on drama than Channel 4, whose remit to "foster the new and daring" was recently re-established by its new licence.

But the BBC has eclipsed the station too often in this vital area. Shows such as *This Life*, the young lawyers series, *Holding On*, Tony Marchant's portrait of London, and the new adaptation of Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend* have all added weight to the view that BBC2 is outperforming Channel 4 in the race to screen exciting, adventurous drama.

It is Neal's task to redress the balance. "I think it's true to say that the station's drama has probably not been as competitive as it should have been," he says carefully. "But then Michael Grade's (Jackson's predecessor) philosophy was that Channel 4 has to reinvent itself every four or five years."

Even *Brookside*, a crucial part of the network's brand identity, is beginning to falter: the soap's ratings have declined by around 10 per cent in the past year. "We'll be seeking to bring the series on a bit," he warns. "Changes will be made."

Old-Etonian Neal, who began his career in television 15 years ago as a BBC floor manager, is regarded as one of the most talented and enterprising men in British television drama. His success collaborating with Jimmy McGovern on the original series of *Cracker* ensured he would be a name to watch. As Granada's controller of drama, his hits included *Hillsborough*.

## Gub Neal tells Steve Clarke of his plans to revive the channel's creativity

McGovern's award-winning account of the football stadium tragedy, and the raunchy *Moll Flanders*, starring Alex Kingston. Less successful were *Ebb-Tide*, featuring Robbie Coltrane, and *Painted Lady*, with Helen Mirren. It was at Granada that Neal helped to forge the *Cracker* deal with ABC in America. This was the first time a British production company had won a direct commission to make a series for a mainstream US network. ABC axed the American *Cracker* after initially renewing the contract. The deal proved that Neal has entrepreneurial skills and creative acumen: it is the biggest-selling programme export of all time. He acknowledges it was ultimately "a noble failure".

The experience will be useful in his new job. In common with the other main British broadcasters, Channel 4 is adopting a more aggressive co-production strategy and will target American networks as partners. Neal says he hopes that in future up to a quarter of his output will be co-funded.

Among his first commissions is *Web War*, a high-tech thriller co-produced with Neal's former employer, Granada, via its US subsidiary, Granada Entertainment USA.

Part of Channel 4's problem with drama is a tendency to concentrate its efforts on four or five high-profile serials a year and virtually ignore the long-running drama series, the bedrock of ITV and BBC1. Neal hopes to rectify this, but despite having more money (he has an extra £10 million to spend — an increase of around a third) he will need to spread it across a wider slate, hence the imperative to co-produce.

Another difficulty is the perception that Channel 4 has relied too heavily on a small, elite group of writers, including Alan Bleasdale and Paula Milne. "We're aware that there are a number of writers and producers who were possibly beginning to feel that Channel 4 was not going to get their work off the ground," Neal admits. "I think they pulled back and were pitching in other areas." Drama defines the identity of the channel as much as anything, and Channel

4 hasn't had a regular output. I want to get to the point where we're producing eight or ten big dramas a year, of which two or three would be returning series.

"Without doubt the channel now needs to produce more across a wider range of drama. At the moment we do about 20 to 25 hours a year of original drama. I hope to increase this to around 60 hours."

Since arriving at the station's Horseferry Road HQ last autumn he has begun commissioning in earnest. The writers he is working with resemble a *Who's Who* of contemporary television talent with a smattering of trendy novelists.

Included are McGovern, naturally, Kay Mellor (*Band of Gold* and *Playing the Field*), Peter Kosminsky (*No Child of Mine* and *Shoot to Kill*), Paul Abbott (*Cracker* and *Touching Evil*), *Casualty* creators Jeremy Brock and Paul Urwin, plus Will Self, Irvine Welsh and Colin Bateman.

At the expensive end of his portfolio, Neal is planning to adapt Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*. V.S. Naipaul's *A House for Mr Bisset*, while work continues on Evelyn Waugh's *Sword of Honour*.

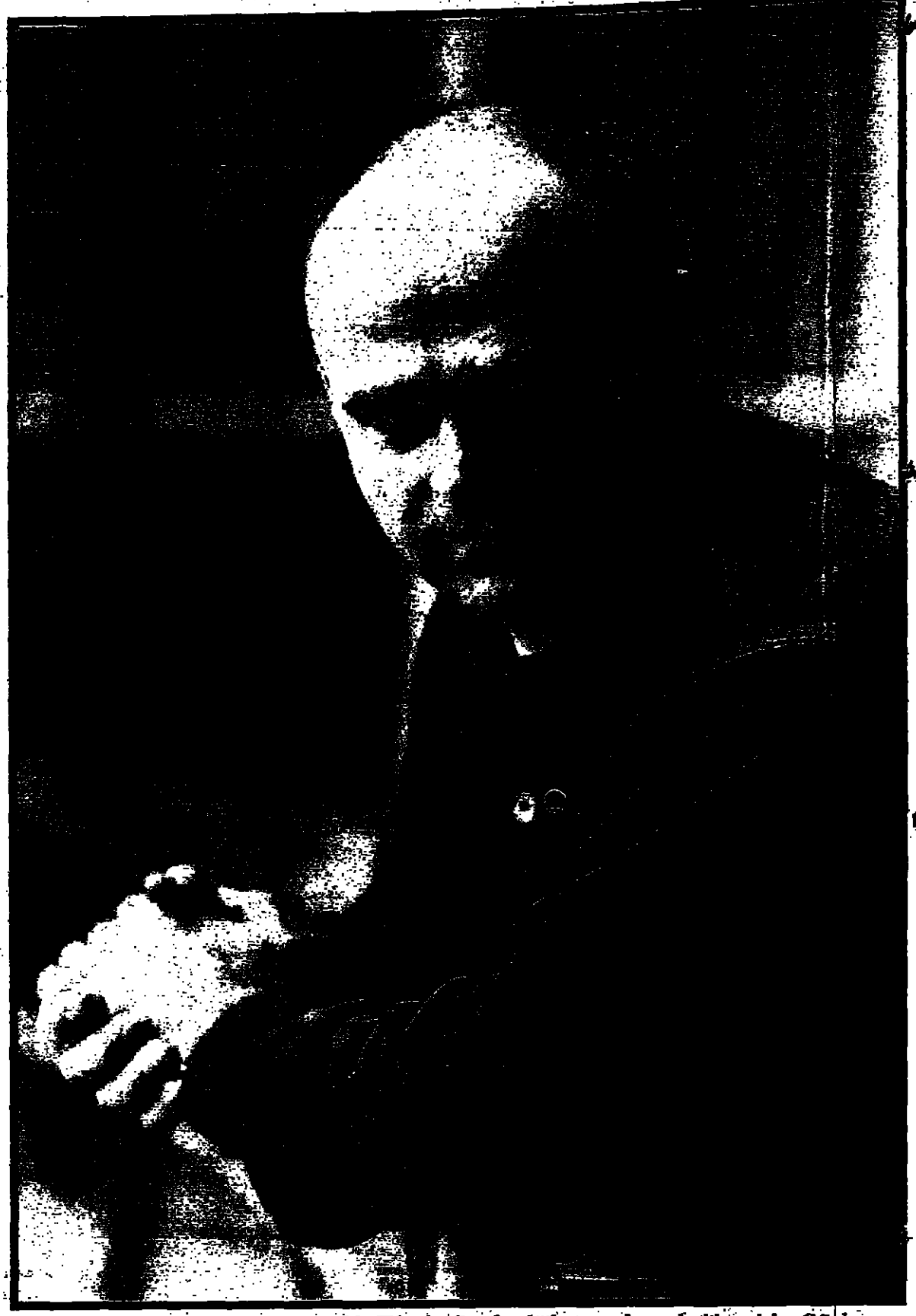
"Our primary focus is on contemporary pieces but we don't want to divorce ourselves from the classics," Neal explains. He is also planning an as-yet untitled *Thirtysomething*-style, relationships drama, pencilled in for Saturday nights and designed to run for more than one series. From the makers of *This Life*, *Island World*, Neal has commissioned *Crossing the Line*, a detective series with a horror twist, starring *This Life*'s Jack Davenport. The creator is Joe Ahearne, another *This Life* refugee.

Another *This Life* writer, Richard Zajdlis is behind *The Disappeared*, a female detective drama, while the creator of BBC2's *The Crow Road*, Brian Elsley, is writing *A Young Person's Guide to Being a Rock Star*, a comedy drama.

Another talent discovered by the BBC, Jed Mercurio, creator of *Cardiac Arrest*, has been commissioned by Neal to write *Trauma One*, a medical drama produced by Nicky Shindler, who worked on *Hillsborough*.

It's an impressive start. But as Neal discovered with the American *Cracker*, creating hits that appeal to audiences and win praise from critics is never easy.

This time he has Michael Jackson (who at the BBC commissioned *This Life*) behind him. And both men understand the balancing act between the creative and commercial imperatives essential to assembling a successful drama portfolio.



Tough assignment: Gub Neal, co-creator of the TV series *Cracker*, is the man charged with reviving Channel 4's drama



TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 481 4481

# MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

FAX: 0171 782 7826

## TRADE MARKETING (FMCG)

**Saudi Arabia** c.£35K tax free + bonus

One of the top five consumer products distributors, which combines international experience with real knowledge of the Saudi Arabian markets, seeks a first class Head of Trade Marketing.

Reporting to the Head of Marketing Operations and Services, the prime objective of this new role is to establish and maintain the Company's position as the preferred choice of principals as their FMCG distributor.

This will entail developing long term trade marketing and growth strategies for principals as well as defining and driving creative distributorship marketing strategies

which support the Company's competitive differential advantage. Candidates aged 28 to 40, ideally graduates, will have several years' FMCG trade marketing experience, including man-management, and will be comfortable working with different nationalities and able to demonstrate team leadership skills.

As well as a tax free salary plus bonus, there is free housing, car allowance and annual air fares.

Please reply with full CV, quoting reference 1209, to James Walsley, Director, Ennismore Partnership Ltd, 48-50 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7DG, fax 0171 436 7677, who is advising on this appointment.



## AVIS

### UK Head of Marketing West London

Avis is a strong and truly global brand. It is the leading car rental company both in the UK and throughout Europe, renowned for service, operational efficiency and consistency of image. Its progressive, open management style encourages employee commitment, enthusiasm and an entrepreneurial approach.

• **THE RESPONSIBILITY** is to the Director of Marketing & Sales for formulating and implementing marketing strategy to increase customer loyalty and raise awareness of brand image. Also for developing and launching national promotional activity to drive volume and revenue.

• **THE REQUIREMENT** is for a talented, broadly based consumer marketing professional, ideally with FMCG and business-to-business background and experience of developing and running effective campaigns to maximise market opportunity. Candidates should be graduates, who are commercially aware, customer focused and able to develop strong relationships, both externally and internally.



Please write in confidence, enclosing CV and salary details, quoting ref: T8511 to: TYZACK SELECTION, 8 HALLAM STREET, LONDON W1N 6DJ. FAX: 0171 631 5317. E-mail: tyzack.selection@accordgroup.co.uk

## Direct Marketing

BT is pioneering new services in convergent telecommunications integration with an increasingly diverse and innovative product portfolio. The style is fast and entrepreneurial, breaking new ground in capitalising on BT's supreme resources and marketing muscle. For direct marketing professionals, these roles offer outstanding career development opportunities in a truly dynamic marketplace.

### Telemarketing Channel Manager

Leeds or West London c£40,000 + car Ref: PC 1924

Managing major programmes from concept through to completion, you will be responsible for ensuring all objectives are met. Key elements will include developing effective outbound campaigns and account managing successful relationships with partners/suppliers. Your background should contain a blend of both inbound and outbound experience gained in either call centre management or in having project managed similar programmes.

### Campaign Manager

West London c£40,000 + car Ref: PC 1923

The ground-breaking nature of the business requires a 'fresh-start' approach to the market; significant below-the-line activity is critical and you will be responsible for both the business case evaluation and subsequent management of a variety of cross-product campaigns. You will have worked on a large fmeg brand, ideally within both an agency and a blue-chip marketing organisation. In addition to your below-the-line expertise, you will be able to demonstrate real business acumen, with sound communications skills.

If you are seeking a direct marketing opportunity which will both challenge and maximise your career and personal development, then send your CV quoting appropriate reference number to Paul Child at Kramer Westfield Search & Selection, The Old Pound House, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 0DJ. Tel: 01344 875087. Fax: 01344 874877. E-mail: sh@kramwest.com Alternatively, you may apply on-line via <http://taps.com>



BT is an equal opportunity employer

## SALES DIRECTOR

Middle East Music/Interactive

Our client based in the Middle East is one of the most rapidly growing privately owned companies involved in the Management of Intellectual Property Rights and the manufacture, marketing, sale and distribution of CDs.

Presently, having licensed rights with two music majors and with ambitious plans for further growth, the company wishes to consolidate its existing position and enhance its future success by the appointment of a Sales Director.

Candidates are likely to have a background in Media/Retail Sales with some awareness of the Music Industry. International experience with a particular reference to the Near and Middle East would be advantageous. They should be professional yet informal, organised yet entrepreneurial.

Reporting directly to the President this position represents a first class opportunity to join a fast growing business aiming on becoming the major player in the region.

Please send, fax or email a full CV to: Trulink Appointments, Willow House, PO Box 422, Chalfont St Giles Bucks P8 4AT. Fax: 01494 762049 email [trulink@pocl.co.uk](mailto:trulink@pocl.co.uk)

St. Petersburg - Moscow - London - Budapest

**Senior Sales Executive**

This company's achievements in recent years are a testimony to its dynamic and innovative approach to business. Our latest concept of direct bank guarantee has achieved phenomenal growth and established an excellent reputation with the industry.

We are now looking to become one of the world's leading manufacturers of bank guarantees, offering a wide range of products to meet the needs of our international customer base.

We are looking for a self-motivated individual who can sell, manage and develop a new market in the Middle East. The successful candidate will enjoy working under pressure and must have a proven track record, and the ability to sell.

An excellent package: Basic, commission, company car, private health, EEE, OTE

Please send full CV and covering letter, stating current salary to Personnel Department (Reference: L171), PO Box 46, 6658

## MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR £21K+BENS

Management consultancy seeks dynamic, self-motivated, proactive individuals for busy marketing department.

Organising/co-ordinating events, bulletins, publications, budgeting, delegating & liaising with VIP's. 18 months exp. W/M, 50 yrs.

Age 23-33 Graduate Preferred.

LINK PEOPLE  
Tel: 0171 269 9696 Fax: 0171 269 9897

What cloth

What cloth... (vertical text on the right edge of the page)



# What happened when the clothes went back on?

### A full monty among the staff seems an unlikely marketing ploy, but Meg Carter found out how it paid off

Imagine seeing your boss naked and, even more terrible, he or she sees you naked too. If that's your worst nightmare, think again: imagine having to work with them the following day. That's just what the staff at marketing agency Grey Direct have come to terms with in the month since they stunned the media world by posing nude to promote their company. And the impact of their self-exposure still lingers.

"It's had a considerable effect on life inside and outside the agency," says Gina Larter, the managing director of Grey Direct. "At a personal level, it has brought us closer together. But it also provoked an interesting response from clients, other agencies and the media. There's amusement, horror and a little envy. And there's still plenty of people talking about it, which is, of course, wonderful for us."

Really? Could you enjoy the aftermath associated with publicly baring your all without the merest hint of embarrassment or regret? And what of those who didn't take part — has this peculiar experiment split the agency in two?

Apparently not. Participants and non-participants insist that the experience has been "liberating" and "exhilarating". Those who shed their clothes talk proudly of having conquered their inhibitions, while those who didn't ruefully insist that it was only because of a pressing prior engagement.

"It has brought us together as a group, and set us apart from the outside world," declares Amy Silvertown, the marketing manager and one of the 35 who posed naked for the ad. "It's the mix of the two contexts — the working relationship and the deeply personal — that other people find so difficult and intriguing to get their heads around."

In case you missed it, Grey Direct shed both clothes and inhibitions for a trade ad that ran only once in late February. It was the idea of the agency's head of art, Mel Colton, who with his creative partner, Suzanne Winterlood, thought the gesture would neatly convey the agency's desire to alter its image.

Once dubbed "grey by name, grey by nature", the agency was eager to develop a stronger image closely associated with its key strengths, says Larter.

"It was about showing clients we have nothing to hide — that we're accessible and accountable. I wasn't interested in a cheap publicity stunt. It's a bold idea that relates to what we stand for," she says.

Staff agreed because it was relevant and proposed by a thirtysomething, female managing director, Larter believes. It was only after the photo session that the group dined on a nearby pub, fuelled by a mixture of euphoria and relief.

"We were naked for only 40 minutes, but it seemed like an hour and a half," admits Handrick. "We had done potentially the worst thing in our lives. I thought of the rest of my career and what might happen to my credibility if this was all a terrible flop, and I was remembered only for being in that picture."

Luckily, his worst fears were not realised. In fact, his colleagues now tease him that he is "some a bit of a pin-up!" The day after the shoot was, if anything, even more embarrassing than the big day itself. The experience briefly reduced all within the agency to equals — the only tactic for the following day was for the staff to breeze in and pretend to forget that less than 24 hours earlier they had seen each other's genitalia.

Today, they speak of the "bonding" of the experience. "You became your friends with people you'd worked with for only a month or two," says Handrick. "There's a greater sense of unity — even among those who didn't take part."

No one at Grey is in doubt that the exercise was worthwhile in terms of business. Acres of coverage have given clients and industry contemporaries an entertaining talking point and dramatically boosted awareness of Grey.

Within hours of publication, news agency Specialist News Services picked up the story; the *Daily Mail* ran the picture; TV crews from Sky News, LWT and Channel One descended on Grey's London offices and other interviews were aired on local radio stations Heart FM and Radio Leeds, Radio 5 Live and British Forces radio.

Reuters wired the story around the world, prompting a deluge of calls to the agency, including approaches from CBS (New York), FM 96 in Ontario, Japan's Zip FM and Tokyo Today and 702 Johannesburg. The photo was reproduced in newspapers and magazines from the US to Singapore and New Zealand. By late March it had even made it into *Der Spiegel* and *Modern Review*. Meanwhile, Grey Direct's website became one of the hottest on the Net. The agency put the photo on-



First row, from left: Andy Blackford, creative director; Gina Larter, managing director; Justin Moore, copywriter; Denise Stevens, junior copywriter; Jeremy Sankey, strategic planning director; Mel Colton, head of art. Second row: Rachel Brooks, account manager; Jonathan Butcher, Mac operator; Natalie Carne, account executive; Greg Handrick, media manager; Berry D'Arcy, account manager; Adam Moore, Mac operator. Third row: Suzanne Winterlood, copywriter; Greg Taylor, planner; Emma Spink, account manager; Luke Gaydon, database manager; Jackie Head, traffic; Jo Deacon, account manager. Fourth row: Kirsty Bull, account manager; Karine Wilson, account manager; John Treacy, art director; Lucien Nation, account manager; Paul Prescott, account executive; Alex Woodard, copywriter; Oliver Butler, art director; Kevin Sugrue, account manager. Fifth row: Robbie Burton-Saniger, head of planning; Claire Fraser-Jones, account director; Gillian Rolland, database project manager; Peter Rivett-Jones, group account director; Jean Haeghele, copywriter; Steve Robertson, art director. Back row: Amy Silvertown, marketing manager; Ben Wren, account manager; Diane Messidoro, copywriter; Tim Walther, junior art director.

ing the photo, which was discreetly conducted by *Vogue* photographer Roger Easton, everyone remained sober, says Greg Handrick, the new media manager. "It was only after the photo session that the group dined on a nearby pub, fuelled by a mixture of euphoria and relief."

"We were naked for only 40 minutes, but it seemed like an hour and a half," admits Handrick. "We had done potentially the worst thing in our lives. I thought of the rest of my career and what might happen to my credibility if this was all a terrible flop, and I was remembered only for being in that picture."

Luckily, his worst fears were not realised. In fact, his colleagues now tease him that he is "some a bit of a pin-up!" The day after the shoot was, if anything, even more embarrassing than the big day itself.

The experience briefly reduced all within the agency to equals — the only tactic for the following day was for the staff to breeze in and pretend to forget that less than 24 hours earlier they had seen each other's genitalia.

Today, they speak of the "bonding" of the experience. "You became your friends with people you'd worked with for only a month or two," says Handrick. "There's a greater sense of unity — even among those who didn't take part."

No one at Grey is in doubt that the exercise was worthwhile in terms of business. Acres of coverage have given clients and industry contemporaries an entertaining talking point and dramatically boosted awareness of Grey.

Within hours of publication, news agency Specialist News Services picked up the story; the *Daily Mail* ran the picture; TV crews from Sky News, LWT and Channel One descended on Grey's London offices and other interviews were aired on local radio stations Heart FM and Radio Leeds, Radio 5 Live and British Forces radio.

Reuters wired the story around the world, prompting a deluge of calls to the agency, including approaches from CBS (New York), FM 96 in Ontario, Japan's Zip FM and Tokyo Today and 702 Johannesburg. The photo was reproduced in newspapers and magazines from the US to Singapore and New Zealand. By late March it had even made it into *Der Spiegel* and *Modern Review*. Meanwhile, Grey Direct's website became one of the hottest on the Net. The agency put the photo on-

# The fantasy film league of the future

### Stewart Till sees a bright outlook for our film industry

One morning during the film festival in Cannes last May, I received a phone call. "Chris Smith is putting together a group to review British film policy. If you were asked, would you co-chair it?"

Within 24 hours, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport was announcing the group and its objectives. I was impressed by both the speed of the new Government's decision-making and its interest in the British film industry.

First off, Tom Clarke, the Minister for Film and Tourism and co-chairman, and I had to recruit the group. Like some fantasy film league, I invited the executives I had long admired and those producers who made many of the recent, great British films. Then we set up the specialist subgroups, drawing in a further 30 or more of the industry's top names (to our amazement, everyone wanted to get involved). We also invited the major industry bodies to submit recommendations, and finally we gave the whole industry the opportunity to send in their views.

Many did and the quality of their proposals ranged from "Why didn't I ever think of that?" to "Is this guy from this planet?" We had set up the equivalent of pyramid-selling, except it was ideas not money flowing back into the centre.

The consultation and decision-making process began and, like anything involving the words "group" and "committee", it has been a tortuous (although ultimately satisfying) task, putting together the series of recommendations that Mr Clarke and I announced on Wednesday.

On the one hand, we had to reconcile the views of the more radical members of the industry, who inherently oppose the Hollywood studios and believe in dramatic interventions such as quotas for British films in British cinemas, with the opinions of those who believe that everything should be left to the natural forces of the market place.

Then there was the need to reconcile the views of the exhibitors with those of the producers, distributors, those new to the industry and freshly optimistic and those who had seen the industry ebb and flow over the past 25 years.

As work on the report progressed, certain consistencies did emerge. All the different opinions were passionately held; this is not an industry where apathy and indifference prevail. Everyone agreed that this was a unique opportunity

to solve all the industry's problems in one glorious swoop (no pressure there).

A few important themes gained general acceptance. The industry seemed to agree that we must develop scripts to a high quality before the film moves into production, and that the distribution of films is a much neglected art and as important as the production. The group concluded that if the 40 or so British pictures that were made last year but not released commercially had had better developed scripts and bigger marketing budgets, then many of them may well have enjoyed a real cinema release and found a sizeable audience.

Most felt that we have to train and educate the next generation of film-makers and viewers.

There was grudging agreement that the next best thing to a British company making a British film that grossed \$200 million worldwide was a Hollywood studio making a British film that grossed \$200 million worldwide — particularly as it became apparent that there was room for both phenomena, even on a regular basis, if the right package of recommendations was put forward.

I finally felt comfortable that we had gained the common ground when I discussed our recommendations with Alan Parker. He said: "It's all common sense — I don't know why it took you so long."

So while it is true that the British film industry has never had it so good, and our market share has trebled in this country, it is also true that our films only achieve, sadly, less than 5 per cent of the worldwide box office. Moreover, our production sector is still mainly a cottage industry, making small-budget films. And unlike Hollywood, and even in most of the other European markets, there is a real lack of local, well-funded distributors.

Yet, as the review group concluded, now is the time for us to get more competitive. We have incredible talent. We make films in the same language as Hollywood, and we have regained in this country a passion for watching movies, be it at the cinema, on video or on television.

Worldwide success for the British film industry is an obtainable goal. We are close but not yet there. However I for one foresee a bigger, better picture for our film industry.

Stewart Till is international president at PolyGram Filmed Entertainment.

# Lolita is too young for American cinemas

ON THE same day the film *Lolita* was granted a certificate by the British Board of Film Classification for screening in UK cinemas, the opposite was happening in the United States. DirectTV, which delivers cable networks, pay-per-view movies and special events by satellite, decided this week against acquiring American rights for the movie. The company has been in negotiation with Pathé, the producers for some time, and eventually told them they considered the material unsuitable.

Unless another buyer is found, which seems unlikely, *Lolita* seems destined to be unreleasable in the United States because of its content. The lust of an adult male, played by Jeremy Irons, for a 12-year-old girl is made still more controversial in American distributors' eyes by the fact that Dominique Swain, who played Lolita, was only 14 years old when the film was made. All the main studios have already decided not to risk public opprobrium by releasing the movie themselves, although many Hollywood film



Underage outrage: Lolita's Dominique Swain and Jeremy Irons

chiefs feel that the movie would be a box-office success.

THE BBC has a simple escape route from its embarrassment over the lottery, crystallised by tomorrow's live *Big Ticket*, which both boosts and shows people winning huge sums of money. It can walk away from Camelot when its current contract for the broadcasting rights expires in November. Behind the scenes, ITV is watching like a hawk and preparing to do a deal: but David Liddiment, the director of programmes for ITV's Network centre, believes that

if *Big Ticket* works, Camelot will stay with the BBC until its contract expires in four years' time. Don't bank on it. The BBC has only agreed to make 16 *Big Ticket* shows, and has no plans for more. Tony Wolfe, the experienced executive producer, says *Big Ticket* is the most sensitive show he has ever made. He refused to be interviewed by Radio 4's *Today* programme at its launch this week and predicts that when it ends, the BBC will go back to conventional coverage. But will that satisfy Camelot?

THE Ofel director-general, Don Cruickshank, officially stands down today after five years. In the short term he says he's writing a book on his burning interest — how to construct a fair new regulatory system as media and telecommunications merge — while also chairing the government committee on the Millennium computer crash. A man with a hotline to the Cabinet, he takes a wintry view of the BBC's massive new deal with the Ameri-

can Discovery network, believing its commercial activities need external regulation, especially in ensuring fair access to its archives.

THE triumphant return of Andrew Marr to *The Independent* as Editor in Chief has not quite cleared up the power balance between him and editing partner, Rosie Boycott. Tony O'Reilly wants to invest in quality upmarket journalism. But bluestockinged Washington correspondent Mary Dejevsky was sacked in a Boycott purge six weeks ago and is supposedly working out her notice. Marr is one of her fans. Only this week she appeared on the opinion pages he edits, and understands that her skills are still required. "It's all very chaotic and confusing," she says. John Price, former deputy editor of *The Observer*, now downshifted to arts editor, may be in line to take over below the dynamic duo as the Editor of the *Independent* on Sunday, if Boycott gives him the nod.

Meanwhile, pressure for economies and power struggles rage at *The Observer* but Will Hutton remains as its grand, titular editor. As one senior executive observed: "Hutton is forging a new editing style, the editor as ambassador."

REMEMBER *Man O Man*, tuckiest of ITV's new crop of Saturday night "people shows" which saw rejected male hunks tossed into a swimming pool by a succession of vampish dancing girls? It is now being given a makeover before returning this summer as part of ITV's desperate efforts to restore ratings. The daft lads taking part will now be divided into two teams, making it less of a cattle market. Out go the dancing girls. The spectacle has been reduced — small mercy — to 45 minutes from an hour, but presenter Chris Tarrant has yet to decide whether to return as host. Liddiment says he has a soft spot for *Man O Man*: "At its heart it was a fun, twinkly show." He can claim credit for spotting gold dust in the slurry: he saw the potential of *Men Behaving Badly*, rescuing the smash-hit sitcom from the BBC when he was briefly its head of entertainment, after ITV dumped it. Liddiment's current big decision? Deciding whether the LWT flop *Ice Warriors* can be hauled back on to its skates.

## THE TIMES DILLONS FORUM

### MEET NICK HORNBY

Nick Hornby, the best-selling author of *Fever Pitch* and *High Fidelity*, will be talking about his new novel, *About a Boy*, at a Times/Dillons Forum.

Hornby will read extracts from the book and answer readers' questions about his work. Chaired by Lyne Truss, *Times* columnist and comic novelist, the forum will take place at 7.30pm on April 7 at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London, WC1. The admission price of £10 (concessions £7.50 for students, pensioners and the unemployed) includes £2 off copies of *About a Boy* (Gollancz, £15.99).

## NICK HORNBY FORUM

Please book me... tickets at £10 and/or... tickets at £7.50 (concessions) for The Times/Dillons Nick Hornby Forum on Tuesday April 7 at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE No: \_\_\_\_\_ I enclose my cheque made payable to Dillons the Bookstore

Value £: \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque number: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please write your name and address on the back of the cheque)

Or, please debit my Credit / Bank Debit / Dillons-Hatchards account card number

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please post coupon and remittance to: The Times/Dillons Nick Hornby Forum, Dillons, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ. Tel: 0171-467 1613. Fax: 0171-467 1690

\*Please note that tickets will be posted until March 30 only. Tickets booked after this date will be held for collection on the night at the venue. Please call 0171-467 1577 to confirm your booking.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Ticket number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date sent: \_\_\_\_\_



# media times

## How to get into print

**Cynthia Kee could not find a publisher, so she took the DIY route**



Cynthia Kee says publishing her own book has "been fun — nothing like as hard as writing"

Last year I thought publishing was done by experts — professional people. Now I know ordinary people can do it too. All you need — the basic ingredient apart — is time, attention and money.

I had a novel, a year's work. It had been commissioned, the first 50 pages approved and, after months of hedging, turned down by Chatto & Windus. I worked on it again. Publishers keep manuscripts for ages, so do agents. I worked on it some more. I got fed up pretending not to mind, and tried to consign it to the back drawer. But I couldn't get on with anything else. "If you want this book to surface, you're going to have to publish it yourself," said one of the fledgling independent publishers I consulted. That sentence did it.

I had some money left me by my brother, a director of Reuters, who died in 1991. The imprint, NLJ, is his initials. The sum of £6,000 had been planted in my mind by an article by Timothy Mo, who had published one of his novels himself. I could afford £6,000. I took the first step and found an editor.

I chose her because she was recommended by a friend and because, unlike the brisk professionals who wanted £100 just to read a manuscript, she read it before deciding to take on the job. Her fee was £300, and a long process of fetching and carrying, of transferring, rewriting and recopying began.

I looked for a graphic designer and chose the cheapest (£650), who was also the farthest away. Another series of long treks started: of intense consideration of typefaces, format, mock-ups, preliminary pages and numbering. I loved

all that. I wanted the book to be readable and elegant. He had a great supply of coloured binders and he kept posting my manuscript to famous writers to get quotes for the back jacket.

I knew this mattered from my distributor, Central Books, a splendid set-up that distributes for independent publishers and charities. It gives publishers advice covering the essentials a newcomer might overlook (where to get an ISBN number; how to fill in an advance information sheet for the sales reps to give booksellers). Between them, bookseller and distributor take 55 per cent of the retail price. In my case, 55 per cent of £10 (my choice of price), I had half an hour to present my book to Troika, the firm of reps they use. They are out on the road with it now, visiting 400 bookshops, with 30 seconds average selling time per book per shop.

At the production stage, I had my greatest good fortune. Looking for someone to design the cover, I was introduced to

Alan Fletcher: "I'd like to see some examples of your work," I said. He told me "Go into any bookshop and have a look at a book called *Beware Wet Paint*." Fletcher was a co-founder of the designers Pentagram. In the local Waterstones I sat the Calophane open. The book, which was about him, fell open at the Reuter logo — commissioned by my brother.

I had a strong notion of how I wanted the cover to look and explained it to him. I went away, talked to photographers, spent an afternoon at Network (a photo-news agency), and came away with a dozen pictures (£35 lending fee; £317 for reproduction), delivered them — and heard nothing for weeks. Then, one day, the telephone rang: "You can come round," Fletcher said. And there was the cover I hadn't dared to dream of. I cried. He held his pencil at arm's length, fiddled for a second or two — and there was the spine. A spine of genius.

I already had a printer, suggested by Central Books. I

didn't compare estimates (£2850.10). Against my better judgment, I never went to see them. As a result, there were misunderstandings, and publication had to be postponed.

The least mistake (there's one on the back cover) costs £55 to put right. Editor, graphic designer and I did last-minute corrections — and someone telephoned from Fletcher's office: "How much space shall we leave on the back for the barcode?" Barcode? (It's quite easy, and took only a day; you get a bit of film — £12.93.)

Finally I got someone to help with publicity. Steven Williams, recommended by another friend, was the only one who asked to read the book. He has been a rock, and everyone respects him.

It has taken a year and cost £5,000, not counting time, postage, photocopying, petrol, paper, telephone calls. It has been fun — nothing like as hard as writing; nothing like as frustrating as being in other people's hands.

But I'm in them now.

CHARLES MOORE, Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, is fond of censuring other newspapers when they fall from his own high standards, especially if they count as dangerous rivals. There was a period after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, when he became obsessed by the *Daily Mail*, which he accused of hypocrisy after its owner, Lord Rothermere, banned the use of paparazzi photographs of the Royal Family. Paul Dacre, an editor as Reithian as Moore in his biblical intensity, gave him back as good as he got.

Now Moore has turned his guns on *The Times*. *The Daily Telegraph* is a good and decent newspaper which has always deserved its reputation for straight reporting. That is why I have been reading it over the past three weeks with mounting sorrow and disbelief.

One of the most common criticisms of newspapers is that when you know about a subject, they always seem to get it wrong. That has certainly been my experience (shared by colleagues) as I have read the *Telegraph's* reporting of the affair of HarperCollins and Chris Patten; Jonathan Mirsky's claim that his reports on China were censored by *The Times*; the purchase by Rupert Murdoch of the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team and, this week, the various versions of a phone call between Tony Blair and the Italian Prime Minister, Romano Prodi, mentioning Murdoch.

Murdoch's global ambitions, the role of BSkyB in British sport and his relationship with Mr Blair raise controversial questions that justify critical scrutiny and serious investigation. So there can be no quarrel with the *Telegraph's* decisions that all were stories worth publication and, in particular, its scoop in reporting that Patten's account of his governorship of Hong Kong. That was a good story, certainly for the metropolitan chattering classes if not for readers in the shires. Where I do quarrel with Moore is in the slant the *Telegraph* is giving to every Murdoch story to try to damn *The Times*.

The spin it has been putting on Murdoch stories is becoming silly and ridiculous. It demeans the *Telegraph's* deserved reputation for straight reporting and is unworthy of a newspaper that claims the moral high ground.

Murdoch's purchase of the Dodgers last week was hardly a big talking point in Britain. *The Guardian* put it on a foreign news page and reported it straight, meanwhile damning Murdoch on another count in its comment pages where comment belongs. Yet alone among the national newspapers, the

## Spiteful gibes cheapen comment

*Telegraph* displayed the story across eight columns on its main inside news page usually devoted to human interest stories, and inserted two gratuitous digests at *The Times*.

Consider this sentence: "Critics fear that, as with his purchase of *The Times*, he [Murdoch] will vulgarise the product." Who says *The Times* has been "vulgarised" by Murdoch? None of the "critics" was named or quoted. So was this the view of the writer? Surely, no, baseball is hardly one of the world's most refined sports. The allegation of vulgarity, moreover, was made by a

been no deal between Murdoch and the former Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi, over a stake in Berlusconi's television company, Mediaset, there was therefore no story. One may quarrel with that decision but it was the decision of the journalist on the spot and was uninfluenced by the editor or even by the foreign desk. If it was a mistake not to carry this story on the basis of an unchecked report in an Italian newspaper, this was the cock-up theory of history at work. There was certainly no conspiracy.

Another story where the *Telegraph* has sought to make mischief and has offered no opportunity of reply was the case of Jonathan Mirsky. Mirsky has in fact been treated honourably by *The Times* and there is an innate sense of decency at the top of the paper that inhibits the proper reply to his scurrilous allegations. So let me do so now in defence of colleagues who observe high journalistic standards, who would never consider censoring stories about China (as any study of the paper amply demonstrates) and who are sick of seeing their integrity questioned.

The truth about Mirsky's is more prosaic and ought to be understood by any journalist: not only was he obsessed by one idea (the danger to Hong Kong after its handover to China) to the detriment of normal news reporting but his earlier career as an academic meant that he could not write in a journalistic manner and could not "sell" his stories — or "weave" telling "intros" — the first paragraphs that whet the reader's appetite to read on. As far as the *Telegraph* is concerned, it is a pity that the *Telegraph* has not been able to find a more suitable reporter for this story.

It is no job of mine to defend the ambitions of Rupert Murdoch and *The News Corporation*. There are occasions, however, when those of us who work for *The Times* grow weary of some editors' obsession with Murdoch. (*The Independent* last Saturday headlined a front page story "Now Murdoch may grab Lord's Test for satellite TV" but did not even mention the report.)

Obsessions can be bad for editors and the *Telegraph* ought to reflect on how Conrad Black, its proprietor, treats his newspapers before seeking so obsessively to damn *The Times* for its association with Murdoch. Only yesterday the *Telegraph* was promoting with a picture on its front page a writer named Barbara Amiel. Who's Barbara Amiel? She's a talented writer but she is also Mrs Conrad Black. And from what one hears, Mr Black is not stoich at letting his editors know when *Telegraph* reports offend his political instincts.

## Brian MacArthur

Jock a

Coke's bu



the first...

the first...

the first...

the first...

the first...

## MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

**AR**  
**Austin Reed**  
KEY INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Austin Reed is a major international brand name in quality business and leisure clothing for men and women. The business is in an exciting period of development which has included repositioning of the brand as well as major changes in the management of retail and international operations. As part of our growth plans, we now require two key international executives both reporting directly to the Managing Director.

**SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR EUROPE**  
The challenge is to relaunch and manage the Austin Reed brand in continental Europe. This will require development of strategic and operational plans and the ability to implement these plans in the market, to deliver sales and profit targets.

**INTERNATIONAL LICENSING MANAGER**  
We require an experienced manager to lead our International Brand Licensing Division. This will require actively managing our existing licensees and launching new licensees. The specific focuses are on Japan, South East Asia and the Americas.

For both appointments we seek candidates who have direct experience in the appropriate markets. A graduate, you will have a marketing and sales background, outstanding communication skills (and be able to speak one or two languages in addition to English for the European role) and have a demonstrable talent for making things happen. Both these positions are based in London but require regular worldwide travel. Excellent salary and benefits packages are available.

If the challenges appeal, please write enclosing a CV and salary details to our consultant Nigel Rugman at Bucher/Rugman & Partners, 25 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LL.

News International Newspapers Limited  
**Head of Strategic Planning Unit**

NEWS INTERNATIONAL, publishers of the UK's four most successful newspapers, are looking for an exceptional individual with the experience and flair to help drive our business forward. You will provide a high-level decision support service for senior News International management, and be instrumental in shaping our future marketing and product development strategy. Working closely with top media and creative agencies, and internally with the editorial, marketing and circulation departments, you will be responsible for all market research, and the monitoring and evaluation of key marketing activities.

**You will have:**

- A detailed comprehension of the market dynamics of the UK media industry;
- An understanding of the relationship between the marketing function and newspaper sales;
- A track record of data analysis in support of strategic decision making;
- A close familiarity with relevant market research.

**You will be:**

- Highly numerate, and expert in written and verbal presentation skills;
- An excellent person manager;
- Familiar with financial analysis and cost centre management;
- Proficient with economic forecasting techniques.

The rewards and benefits for the successful applicant will be commensurate with the importance of the position. To apply, please send your full cv in confidence, quoting reference R98112, to Clive Milner, General Manager, NGN, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BD, before April 3rd 1998.

**SUN THE TIMES NEWS WORLD THE SUNDAY TIMES**

**Regional Manager - Indirect Sales**

**MOBILE BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS**

Our client is a young and dynamic organisation, which operates one of the largest and most successful mobile voice and data business communications networks in the UK. The company forms an integral part of a large multi-national group, and plans to treble its subscriber base over the next three years.

The largest sector of their UK revenue is generated through the indirect channel, and they are now looking to recruit an exceptional individual to manage this operation in the Midlands/South West region.

Maintaining and developing the partnership with a diverse range of independent Service Providers (SPs), your responsibilities will be both varied and challenging. Critical to your success will be your ability to understand and motivate these partner organisations, generating and managing programmes that optimise potential sales. Working closely with each SP, you must help them win business through a variety of activities including joint visits, promotional planning and staff training. Recognising and developing new partners will also be an integral part of the role.

Clearly, our client is looking for an individual of outstanding ability. You must have a strong and demonstrable track record of sales success, preferably from the cellular, mobile radio or paging markets. You should also be a strategic thinker with a broad commercial overview of the mobile market. An understanding of the indirect or service provider market would also help secure this exciting career position.

If this opportunity appeals, please send your CV, including details of current package and actual earnings and quoting reference MD5836, to Steve Jones, Macmillan Davies Hodes, Salisbury House, Bluecoats, Herford SG14 1PU. Tel: 01992 552552. Fax: 01992 509808. E-mail: rosec@mdh.co.uk

**Midlands/SW England**  
Package to c. £37,000

**Macmillan Davies Hodes**  
BIRMINGHAM • BRISTOL • GLASGOW • HERTFORD • LEEDS • LONDON • MANCHESTER

**Public Relations**  
Study from home for a new career or second income. A 12 week "Public Relations, Publicity & Promotions" Diploma Course with the Movie College of Journalism. Phone for a free Prospectus. 0800 371 500

**How To Make £25,000 A Year With Your Home Computer**  
See also Education 0800 371 500 +44 1832 850008 MORRIS COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No. \_\_\_\_\_ c/o THE TIMES P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST, LONDON, E1 9GA

**PAUL SAMOILYS**  
0171 938 8429

**A REWARDING CHALLENGE**  
We are a long-established publishing company with full PLC status. Success means expansion and we welcome the opportunity to meet charismatic individuals who will appreciate our:

- International reputation / Blue chip client base
- Commitment to initial and ongoing career development
- High commission or basic + commission packages = £45K expected year one
- Company car and medical schemes

The role involves negotiation with Directors and Presidents throughout the world, so to rise to the challenge you should ideally be:

- Resident in London
- Graduate calibre
- A team player with a sense of humour

IAN SLOAN 0171-915-9943

It seems you have a lot of choice on these pages. In fact, you only have two.

To earn really good money in advertising sales you need a good book to work out and a very good manager to work with. I provide the most professional and lucrative environment possible, and I have done so for over 10 years.

I was a brain teacher. I became a cash-rich salesman. Now I'm a wealthy General Manager and I will teach you how to be a successful salesperson — quickly.

Phone me, Philip Armstrong, so I can show you how to succeed or phone the office and fail!

0171-262-4832 or 0171-262-4764

**"I'M WORTH MORE THAN THIS JOB!"**  
With today's unemployment, you need to be a professional. We can help you get the job you want. Call us now. 0171-935 5422











# EDUCATION

## The good citizen guide

**Bernard Crick says schools have a duty to educate children to take an active part in public life**

**B**oswell once reported Dr Johnson as musing on the profound matter of "why were we born" and, since we were born, "why were we not born before?" I feel like that about citizenship education.

Every other country in Europe has civic education, as does the United States, Canada and Australia. And, may I add, Scotland has Modern Studies, even in the school of the head teacher who was so critical of citizenship earlier in the week.

Like the committee I chair on citizenship, they all seek to combat apathy and ignorance of public life and to prepare the young to become active citizens. Our interim report published yesterday contains the main recommendations that will enable us to go on to offer clear learning objectives to schools.

Many schools already find time, despite the crowded statutory curriculum, for a period a week on citizenship, civics, or current affairs, whatever called. Before the national curriculum it was much more common. Indeed, a movement for political education or "political literacy" was gathering pace following the efforts of several worthy non-political and cross-bench bodies — notably the Hansard Society, the Citizenship Foundation (mainly funded by the Law Society) and the Council for Education in World Citizenship. But because it was not identified or required as a subject, it tended to languish in the head's bottom drawer.

My colleagues and I are well aware of the nervousness felt about the subject. It has been called "inevitably biased" (that needs a serious answer) and, according to the somewhat hysterical, "a project for indoctrination" and even "potentially totalitarian". But the fact that the original proposals for some form of citizenship education came out a decade ago under a Conservative Government indicates that the reason it has not been "born before" lies in the immediate priorities for the new national curriculum, not in any great body of public or political opposition.

On the contrary, we are all becoming more and more worried that so many young people seem to have too little or no civic sense and public responsibility. Politicians of all parties are also aware of how much lower is voting turn-out in the post-18 cohort, membership of parties or involvement in civic bodies, if any kind. There are honourable exceptions, of



Bridging the gap: learning how to be a responsible citizen is a necessary part of a young person's education

course: one of the best-reasoned submissions we heard was from the National Youth Council, emphasising just those things, and seeing a great gap in the education they had just received.

The 1988 Act famously stated that maintained schools must have "a balanced and broadly based curriculum which (a) promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and (b) prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life". My committee sees citizenship education simply as a necessary part of preparation for adult life. Young people cannot be allowed to leave school ignorant of how their country is governed and, of our relations with the outside world, and unskilled and inexperienced in how to act as citizens.

Our terms of reference are interesting: "to provide advice on effective education for citizenship in schools — to include the nature and practices of participation in democracy, the duties, responsibilities

and rights of individuals as citizens, and the value to individuals and society as community activity". So we cover both political literacy and community awareness and activity.

**T**hat is reflected in the composition of my committee. The only politician on it is Lord Baker, not merely for his experience as the architect of the national curriculum, but because he was chairman of the Hansard Society 20 years ago when their *Political Education and Political Literacy* report appeared. Elizabeth Hoodless is director of Community Service Volunteers. Elaine Applebee is a member of the Synod of the Church of England, Sir Stephen Timmins, now no longer Chief Inspector of Prisons, is the Master of a college, but Usha Prashar is chair of the Parole Board. There are others, with teachers, at this stage at least, in a small minority. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd, is our patron, represented by Sir Donald Limon, who he tells us,

reports back to her. This means, of course, that the Speaker cleared the Government's request to be patron with the Leader of the Opposition.

Our main recommendation is that citizenship education should be an entitlement for every pupil in school, and we state that something useful and effective can be achieved with 5 per cent of the timetable. That should threaten no other subject, but simply be a matter of adjustment. It should be phased in over time, to allow for in-service teaching.

Also we advise that, instead of the present detailed prescription of programmes of study, "learning outcomes" should be set out for every key stage — tight enough for assessment and inspection, but giving schools flexibility in drawing up curricula. We are against a single national programme, on libertarian grounds and to lessen the temptation of detailed interventions by ministers.

Education for citizenship and the teaching of democracy in schools; free from QCA Publications, PO Box 235, Hayes UB3 1HF.

## Bad behaviour made good

How one city is dealing with school expulsions

**S**ELDOM a week goes by without ministers, teaching unions or academics bemoaning the apparently inexorable rise in school expulsions. The problem is not only getting worse in terms of numbers but those expelled are getting younger.

While overall the numbers being expelled rose 13 per cent last year to 12,500, the rise was most dramatic in primary schools, where the numbers went up by 18 per cent. Those excluded at primary level will be among the most "vulnerable" when they graduate to secondary school.

Many see the rise of expulsions as an inevitable consequence of schools competing for higher standards. But in Bristol primary schools, there has been a dramatic decline in the number of permanent exclusions.

The education authority has almost halved the number of children expelled from its primary schools with the help of a government grant. Five years ago primary expulsions numbered a handful at most. But they had risen to 41 before the initiative was launched.

Jean Gross, Bristol's chief educational psychologist, says: "Children are becoming more violent and less easy to manage at a younger age. We are even having problems in the pre-school classes. It is important to realise that these are not just naughty children: many come from very difficult and disrupted backgrounds; 20 per cent of those we deal with are fostered; few live with both parents. Many are receiving very little adult guidance, affection or ideas about acceptable behaviour. Our campaign has been to pick up these children early and bring together a whole range of agencies and resources so we can tackle the problem both at source and in the classroom."

The big idea has been bringing together social services, educational psychologists, welfare officers, behaviour support staff and most importantly the teachers. Where difficulties are known to be likely, strategies and contingencies are worked out. For instance if a child is known to run, the strategy is often not to chase because the more you chase the further they run. Letting them run out into the

playground and cool off and then come back defuses the situation.

Tonia Robinson, the project co-ordinator, says: "The fact that the teacher has a well-rehearsed drill ready and knows that there is back up often translates through body language and attitude to the child who then reacts in far less confrontational way."

Many of these children find lunch-time and playtime difficult because these times are less structured. Specially tailored activity clubs not only take them away from stressful situations, but, because the clubs are attractive, give these often deprived children all-important status.

Extra help in class has also been beefed up to give the children more support with their work — failure and frustration at simple academic tasks can often lead to a need for the unsocialised child to escape. If, as is typical, the child goes under a table and creates a scene, the strategy may be to take the rest of the class into the hall to finish the lesson. This avoids a humiliating, destructive

and often violent episode — an experience that may well leave the teacher wanting to exclude the child.

Black children are proportionately six times more likely to be excluded in Bristol. Boys are nine times more likely to be expelled than girls. But the extra professional help makes many parents realise why their child might be an object of playground teasing.

The secret of this project's success has been catching the children very early in their delinquent cycle. If a child has, at worst, been informally excluded, perhaps for a day or so, the success rate of maintaining them in mainstream schools is 90 per cent. Once a child has been permanently excluded the success rate of keeping the child in school is almost halved.

Gross says: "Once a child has been moved to another school then expectations are lowered. The first primary school children attend is the one with which they form the strongest emotional attachment, they will put up with more and try harder."

HUGH THOMPSON



## Time to find new terms

**S**uggestions last week that the school year should be reorganised were greeted with almost universal scepticism. Where was the evidence, asked the Secondary Heads Association, that a different arrangement would produce better results? David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, said, in effect, that he had more important things to think about.

In the United States, however, the organisation of teaching time is a live issue. One particularly innovative scheme introduced at a school in Kentucky appears to be producing results.

Karate, dance, music, chess and cultural visits are all done on optional Mondays at Engelhard Elementary School in Louisville, Jefferson County. The summer vacation has been cut from 12 weeks to five and participating students attend for an additional 25 days a year. The only year-round school of its kind, Engelhard has a formula that works. Attendance on Mondays is optional for staff and students, and the teacher/student ratio is a remarkable 16 to one.

Unlike other year-round schools where the students cannot all be accommodated at the same time, overcrowding is not a problem.

Overcrowded schools have teachers working in shifts, to utilise the buildings, or students attend at different times of the year on different "tracks", thus using the buildings to their full potential.

"It's a cop-out for building more schools," says Bill Lambert, Director of Government Relations for the powerful teachers' union, United Teachers of Los Angeles.

"Working in shifts is not popular," he says. "But some teachers do like working with a number of student groups going through the school at different times of the year. They can earn extra money if they work with more than one group, effectively working a longer year. It saves getting a second job, which many teachers have."

Teresa Jensen, the principal, says: "The Engelhard initiative came about by chance. After a Monday holiday, we discussed how good it was to have that extra day, and how much we managed to get done



George Turnbull sees a lesson for Britain in the way that schools in America reorganise their year

around the house. We looked at various ideas before we hit on our optional Monday solution. The staff had to vote on it. It's been going for four years now and it is the only one of its type in the country."

Four other elementary schools in Jefferson County have alternative programmes which suit them better. They have adopted the principle of 45 days on and 15 days off. Ms Jensen says: "That wouldn't suit us. We believe that gives too big a gap away from learning, and you have to start again from scratch after the 15-day break."

One Engelhard parent says the kids stay focused. "And it saves child-minding fees during the long traditional 12-week vacation."

Another father says: "We can't afford to go on long vacations, we are working, so it keeps the kids off the streets. But the kids don't like going to school when their buddies are still on vacation."

Neither of them would like

to see several groups going through at different times of the year or at different hours of the day.

Two-thirds of the staff participate on optional Mondays. Additional staff are hired to cope with the shortfall. But 91 per cent of the students attend, compared to the 33 per cent that used to enrol at summer school, which this programme replaces. The summer school pays for additional expenses and the extra help needed to run the Monday sessions.

"It's a case of everyone wins," says Ms Jensen. "The kids go home exhausted. They play sport, go on trips and keep active — but under supervision. And all the academic work is done in the remaining four days without interruption."

Better use of time, and the thought of a three-day weekend set the thought process in motion. Now that it is there, it is likely to stay, providing that the renegotiation of teachers' contracts doesn't put a spar-

ner in the works — they are due for discussion soon.

Hobart Boulevard Elementary School in Los Angeles, by contrast, has a multi-track system so students attend at different times of the year. This strategy of packing more and more students into the same building is also condemned by John Howard, former principal of Belmont High School in the city.

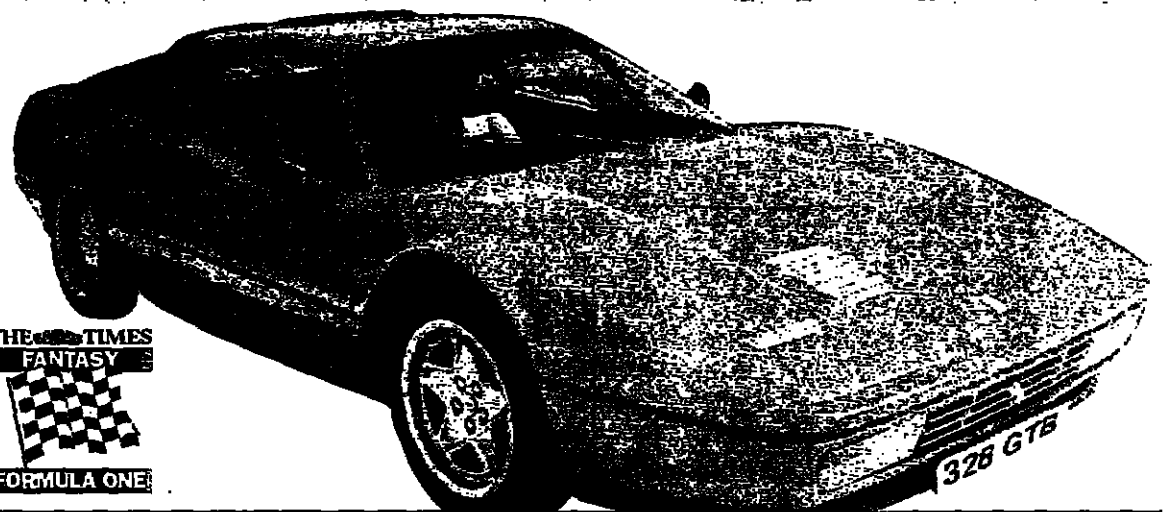
**W**ith 5,000 students attending at any one time, and 85 countries and 35 dialects represented in the student body, it is the second biggest high school in America, Mr Howard says: "You never get to know any of the kids. And that can't be good — by any standard."

And standards is the name of the game, as each school district strives to raise them. There is no national curriculum and little control to implement presidential good intentions — other than by persuasion and federal funding. But for a country rich in ideas and innovation, there is plenty of scope to develop them to their potential.

The author is Editor of Business Matters, published by the Associated Examining Board.

EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

## WIN A CLASSIC FERRARI 328 GTB



ENTER THE ARGENTINE GRAND PRIX TODAY

**T**here is still time to enter our Fantasy Formula One competition for the chance to win a classic Ferrari 328 GTB. Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix at Interlagos is only the second of 16 races in our competition and entry lines are open now to register for the Argentine Grand Prix at Buenos Aires on Sunday April 12. Second prize is a trip for two to the 1999 Australian Grand Prix. Third prize is a trip for two to the 1999 Monaco Grand Prix. Choose your fantasy team with care by making three selections from each of the

four groups below. Checkline Readers who have already entered the competition can check their scores after Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix by calling 0891 884 648 (+44 990 100 348 ex UK) from midday on Tuesday using their PINs. Faxback Service Alternatively, use our faxback service on 0991 111 444 (UK only). Faxback calls cost £1 per minute from midday on Tuesday. Transfers Change up to four selections before the Argentine race by calling 0891 555 994 (+44 990 100 394 ex UK) before noon on Thursday April 9 with their PIN(s).

MAKE 3 SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THESE FOUR GROUPS

GROUP A DRIVERS			
01 Damon Hill	05 Jacques Villeneuve	09 Mika Hakkinen	
02 Michael Schumacher	06 Olivier Panis	10 Jean Alesi	
03 David Coulthard	07 Heinz-Harald Frentzen	11 Rubens Barrichello	
04 Giancarlo Fisichella	08 Eddie Irvine		
GROUP B DRIVERS			
12 Alexander Wurz	16 Mika Salo	20 Ricardo Rosset	
13 Ralf Schumacher	17 Pedro Diniz	21 Shinji Nakano	
14 Jarno Trulli	18 Jan Magnussen	22 Esteban Tuero	
15 Johnny Herbert	19 Toranosuke Takagi		
GROUP C CONSTRUCTORS		GROUP D CONSTRUCTORS	
23 Williams	26 McLaren	29 Sauber	32 Tyrrell
24 Ferrari	27 Jordan	30 Arrows	33 Minardi
25 Benetton	28 Prost	31 Stewart	

FANTASY FORMULA ONE 24-HOUR ENTRY LINE: 0891 40 50 01

+44 990 100 344 outside the UK

0891 calls cost 50p per minute (standard tariffs apply to +44 990 calls)

CHANGING TIMES







RACING: REPRESENTATIVES CHOOSE STALL NUMBERS FOR RUNNERS IN TOMORROW'S LINCOLN

Trainers draw their own conclusions

By RICHARD EVANS RACING CORRESPONDENT

TRAINERS were stripped of one of their favourite excuses for beaten horses yesterday with a little help from a star of the Full Monty, the Oscar-winning film.

In a unique start to the turf Flat season at Doncaster, a public draw took place for the stall numbers of the runners in tomorrow's Worthington Lincoln Handicap — allowing trainers to pick their preferred stall.

The effect of the draw in a race is often vital and there is invariably an interminable debate over whether it is better to have a high or low stall number over the straight mile at Doncaster for the first big handicap of the season. However, the onus was placed on trainers — or their representatives — yesterday as Steve Hudson returned from the Oscars ceremony to help create a small slice of racing history.

Hudson, fully clothed with the exception of a tie, pulled numbered discs, representing individual horses, from a small yellow bag and trainers had 60 seconds to decide which stall they wanted. First out was Right Wing, trained by John Dunlop and strongly fancied for tomorrow's feature race.

Grant Harris, chief executive of the National Trainers' Federation and representing Dunlop who is attending the Dubai World Cup, immediately opted for stall six — which has housed six winners and several placed horses in the past 25 years.

"My instructions were to go for anything between four and eight if I had the choice," Low numbers remained in demand from trainers and owners until Bruce Raymond, representing Maktoum stall for the 20 stall for Hair. "I spoke to Michael Hills on the way out here and he said he would prefer the stands' side, although I don't think it makes that much difference. It is better to be one side or the other and to have an even rather than an odd number — as the odd numbers are loaded first."

Raymond, who rode in the Lincoln many times, added: "In the old days, you had to be on the stands' side — the far side was no use at all — but drainage has changed all of these years and on other courses, such as Leicester."

Of course, some trainers had little choice — including Michael Bell, the Newmarket trainer responsible for Solar Storm, the Lincoln favourite. His number was last but one to come out of the bag — and he opted for stall 14. "Ideally, I



Alex Greaves and Proud Native, nearside, power past Lord High Admiral to win at Doncaster yesterday

wanted to be in the bottom ten, but I had Hobson's choice. At least I can't be accused of mucking it up. Solar Storm is a class horse and, as long as he gets a good lead, he will take a lot of beating."

John Egan takes the ride on Always Aight (2.05) in the six-furlong Hepworth Plumbers Handicap, the first of four races shown on Channel 4. The Karl Burke-trained sprinter improved throughout last season and ended up winning at Newcastle before an equally good effort from a bad draw at Redcar.

The stoutly bred Doveodon Star showed her best form when stepped up in trip at Newmarket last autumn and further improvement looks in store for new trainer Anthony Kelleway now that she tackles a distance beyond two miles for the first time in the Roy Bass Handicap (2.35).

Ben Gunn goes well fresh and his best performances have come in big fields, where the Peter Walwyn-trained runner is guaranteed a strong pace. He goes well for Ray Cochrane and has a sporting chance, at decent odds, in the Worthington Spring Mile Handicap (3.10).

Rainbow Ways looked physically weak last term, but still managed to reach the frame in decent juvenile maidens at Leicester and Newmarket. The Barry Hills-trained runner can open his account in the Hepworth Drainage Maiden Stakes (3.40) at the main expense of Mark Johnston's Long Bond.

Raymond, who rode in the Lincoln many times, added: "In the old days, you had to be on the stands' side — the far side was no use at all — but drainage has changed all of these years and on other courses, such as Leicester."

Of course, some trainers had little choice — including Michael Bell, the Newmarket trainer responsible for Solar Storm, the Lincoln favourite. His number was last but one to come out of the bag — and he opted for stall 14. "Ideally, I

wanted to be in the bottom ten, but I had Hobson's choice. At least I can't be accused of mucking it up. Solar Storm is a class horse and, as long as he gets a good lead, he will take a lot of beating."

John Egan takes the ride on Always Aight (2.05) in the six-furlong Hepworth Plumbers Handicap, the first of four races shown on Channel 4. The Karl Burke-trained sprinter improved throughout last season and ended up winning at Newcastle before an equally good effort from a bad draw at Redcar.

The stoutly bred Doveodon Star showed her best form when stepped up in trip at Newmarket last autumn and further improvement looks in store for new trainer Anthony Kelleway now that she tackles a distance beyond two miles for the first time in the Roy Bass Handicap (2.35).

Ben Gunn goes well fresh and his best performances have come in big fields, where the Peter Walwyn-trained runner is guaranteed a strong pace. He goes well for Ray Cochrane and has a sporting chance, at decent odds, in the Worthington Spring Mile Handicap (3.10).

Rainbow Ways looked physically weak last term, but still managed to reach the frame in decent juvenile maidens at Leicester and Newmarket. The Barry Hills-trained runner can open his account in the Hepworth Drainage Maiden Stakes (3.40) at the main expense of Mark Johnston's Long Bond.

Raymond, who rode in the Lincoln many times, added: "In the old days, you had to be on the stands' side — the far side was no use at all — but drainage has changed all of these years and on other courses, such as Leicester."

Of course, some trainers had little choice — including Michael Bell, the Newmarket trainer responsible for Solar Storm, the Lincoln favourite. His number was last but one to come out of the bag — and he opted for stall 14. "Ideally, I

wanted to be in the bottom ten, but I had Hobson's choice. At least I can't be accused of mucking it up. Solar Storm is a class horse and, as long as he gets a good lead, he will take a lot of beating."

John Egan takes the ride on Always Aight (2.05) in the six-furlong Hepworth Plumbers Handicap, the first of four races shown on Channel 4. The Karl Burke-trained sprinter improved throughout last season and ended up winning at Newcastle before an equally good effort from a bad draw at Redcar.

The stoutly bred Doveodon Star showed her best form when stepped up in trip at Newmarket last autumn and further improvement looks in store for new trainer Anthony Kelleway now that she tackles a distance beyond two miles for the first time in the Roy Bass Handicap (2.35).

Ben Gunn goes well fresh and his best performances have come in big fields, where the Peter Walwyn-trained runner is guaranteed a strong pace. He goes well for Ray Cochrane and has a sporting chance, at decent odds, in the Worthington Spring Mile Handicap (3.10).

Rainbow Ways looked physically weak last term, but still managed to reach the frame in decent juvenile maidens at Leicester and Newmarket. The Barry Hills-trained runner can open his account in the Hepworth Drainage Maiden Stakes (3.40) at the main expense of Mark Johnston's Long Bond.

Raymond, who rode in the Lincoln many times, added: "In the old days, you had to be on the stands' side — the far side was no use at all — but drainage has changed all of these years and on other courses, such as Leicester."

Of course, some trainers had little choice — including Michael Bell, the Newmarket trainer responsible for Solar Storm, the Lincoln favourite. His number was last but one to come out of the bag — and he opted for stall 14. "Ideally, I

wanted to be in the bottom ten, but I had Hobson's choice. At least I can't be accused of mucking it up. Solar Storm is a class horse and, as long as he gets a good lead, he will take a lot of beating."

John Egan takes the ride on Always Aight (2.05) in the six-furlong Hepworth Plumbers Handicap, the first of four races shown on Channel 4. The Karl Burke-trained sprinter improved throughout last season and ended up winning at Newcastle before an equally good effort from a bad draw at Redcar.

The stoutly bred Doveodon Star showed her best form when stepped up in trip at Newmarket last autumn and further improvement looks in store for new trainer Anthony Kelleway now that she tackles a distance beyond two miles for the first time in the Roy Bass Handicap (2.35).

Ben Gunn goes well fresh and his best performances have come in big fields, where the Peter Walwyn-trained runner is guaranteed a strong pace. He goes well for Ray Cochrane and has a sporting chance, at decent odds, in the Worthington Spring Mile Handicap (3.10).

Rainbow Ways looked physically weak last term, but still managed to reach the frame in decent juvenile maidens at Leicester and Newmarket. The Barry Hills-trained runner can open his account in the Hepworth Drainage Maiden Stakes (3.40) at the main expense of Mark Johnston's Long Bond.

Dubai hopes for champion display from Silver Charm

FROM CHRIS McGRATH IN DUBAI

IN JUST three years — as though it were another of the gleaming tower blocks springing onto the city's skyline — the Dubai World Cup has soared to the dizzy heights of international racing. True, tomorrow's race appears to rely heavily on Silver Charm to rebuy the authentic championship status of Cigar and Singpiel. The foundations laid by those horses, however, are sturdier than mere sand.

Naturally, the World Cup's immediate status also owes a good deal to a purse of \$4 million (£2.4 million). Money might not grow on trees here, but it can certainly make trees grow, and the Maktoum family is prudently determined to see Dubai's oil wealth principally prepare for its exhaustion.

Some consider the expensive pursuit of racing to distract from their purpose. In truth, however, it has a vital role to play, notably — along with Sheikh Mohammed's other pioneering inspiration, Godolphin — through the Dubai World Cup itself. For this is not just a horse race. It addresses the central tension in Dubai's cultural inheritance.

As trading post, Dubai has always had open economic and social exchange, while the desert — the Empty Quarter, which forced the emirate's gaze seawards in the first place — embodies a militant traditionalism. Modern, dynamic Dubai inevitably confronts the Bedouin element of its heritage: root-

less, humble, compromised. It is instead intent on carving a static identity — claimed defiantly at the expense of the desert, surrendering to green glass and steel, to bustling lawns, golf courses and racetracks.

The World Cup entwines these strands. It affirms an ancient empathy with horses, vital emblem of the nomadic tradition, while asserting Dubai's place as a modern international city. Silver Charm has been coaxed from California, the first Kentucky Derby winner in 63 years to venture abroad. "I think he will go down in American history as one of the greatest racehorses we have seen," says Gary Stevens, his rider, who just 5-4 with Ladbrokes, which prices Preddipin, his principal rival, at 9-2.

Along with Swain, Preddipin defends the local honor of Godolphin. This season could be Godolphin's most important since Balanchine last launched its revolution. Last year, it could not match the exalted standards of the previous three, and there is considerable pressure on the squad arriving for the Newmarket Guineas meeting.

At the Al Qudra training camp yesterday, Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, indicated that Embassy, albeit subject of a brief alarm last weekend, has flourished most. She may be joined in the 1,000 Guineas by Cape Verdi, while Central Park is their leading 2,000 Guineas candidate.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes 'THUNDERER' section with race times and names like '1.30 Just Sunday', '2.05 Indian Brave', '2.35 DOVEDON STAR (nap)', '4.10 Chatham'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '2.05 HEPWORTH PLUMBERS HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '1.50 (18) ROYAL MARK 210 (6.5)', '2.02 (16) BOLD EFFORT 12 (6.5)', '2.03 (17) BOLD EFFORT 12 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '3.10 WORTHINGTON SPRING MILE HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '4.01 (2) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)', '4.02 (1) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)', '4.03 (3) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '3.30 ALISON ASSOCIATES HUNTERS CHASE' with race details and horse names like '1-11 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)', '1-12 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)', '1-13 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.00 NEWBURY RACECOURSE STATION HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '5-1 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)', '5-2 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)', '5-3 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.30 WANTAGE NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '1-21 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-22 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-23 EDWARD 17 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '2.55 SABIN DU LOIR HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '1-22 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-23 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-24 EDWARD 17 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '2.35 RAY BASS HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '3.01 (2) 212021- TURBULENCE 10 (5.5)', '3.02 (1) 212021- TURBULENCE 10 (5.5)', '3.03 (3) 212021- TURBULENCE 10 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '3.40 HEPWORTH DRAINAGE MAIDEN STAKES' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.10 HEPWORTH CONCRETE MAIDEN STAKES' with race details and horse names like '6.01 (7) 222- ALBANI 12 (5.5)', '6.02 (6) 222- ALBANI 12 (5.5)', '6.03 (5) 222- ALBANI 12 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.20 ADDISON ROSS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '5.01 (10) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.02 (9) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)', '5.03 (8) 2223- ACHILLES 13 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes 'Doveodon Star' section with race details and horse names like '1.30 Just Sunday', '2.05 Indian Brave', '2.35 DOVEDON STAR (nap)', '4.10 Chatham'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '2.05 HEPWORTH PLUMBERS HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '1.50 (18) ROYAL MARK 210 (6.5)', '2.02 (16) BOLD EFFORT 12 (6.5)', '2.03 (17) BOLD EFFORT 12 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '3.10 WORTHINGTON SPRING MILE HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '4.01 (2) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)', '4.02 (1) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)', '4.03 (3) 4/6000- JAHNNAH 10 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '3.30 ALISON ASSOCIATES HUNTERS CHASE' with race details and horse names like '1-11 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)', '1-12 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)', '1-13 TETON HILL 17 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.00 NEWBURY RACECOURSE STATION HANDICAP' with race details and horse names like '5-1 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)', '5-2 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)', '5-3 PREMIER BAY 15 (6.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '4.30 WANTAGE NOVICES HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '1-21 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-22 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-23 EDWARD 17 (5.5)'.

Table with 2 columns: Race Name and Details. Includes '2.55 SABIN DU LOIR HURDLE' with race details and horse names like '1-22 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-23 EDWARD 17 (5.5)', '1-24 EDWARD 17 (5.5)'.

Advertisement for 'FREE BOOK Freephone Betting' featuring 'WORTHINGTON SPRING MILE' and 'RACELINE' with contact information and a list of horse names.



FOOTBALL: MIDFIELD PLAYER FINALLY JOINS CRYSTAL PALACE ON FRANTIC TRANSFER DEADLINE DAY

Villa agree to cut losses on Curcic

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON
IT TOOK the threat of the transfer deadline looming ever nearer but it worked. Sasa Curcic's protracted move from Aston Villa to Crystal Palace was finally completed yesterday on a frantic day of wheeling and dealing in the FA Carling Premiership and Nationwide League.

good use because, obviously, there are things I have in mind for strengthening my team."
Curcic, 26, has signed a three-year contract with the Premiership's bottom club. "It is a dream move and I'm looking forward to a successful career at Palace," he said. "I believe there is enough quality in our squad for us to avoid relegation."

ing them on loan until the end of the season and subsequently admitting that he was "over the moon" to be forsaking Merseyside for London.
"It's not been the happiest of times for me, not getting a chance," Ruddock said. "You do miss playing. It doesn't matter which football club you're at."

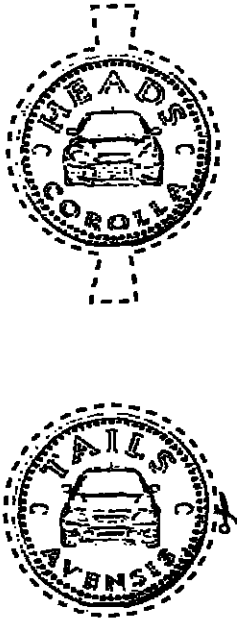
at Goodison Park, from Bradford City until the end of the season. On his travels, Beagrie, 32, a winger, has also played for Stoke City, Sheffield United and Manchester City.
"Peter can still provide more ammunition than most wide players in the country," Kendall said. "Should we need to get on or Michael Wardar, I'm sure Peter will do it."

entry City manager, had to look further afield when he signed Philippe Clement, the Belgium midfielder player, from Genk for a fee of £625,000. Clement, 26, has agreed a four-year contract but will not be able to play until next season.
"We have watched Philippe for the last three months," Bryan Richardson, the Coventry chairman, said. "He has two years to run on his Genk contract but we were able to work a release through a get-out clause allowing him to leave if a foreign club came in for him."

City striker, moving to Manchester City for £400,000. "Bristol were loath to let him go while they were going for promotion," Joe Royle, the Manchester City manager, said. "But they were aware that they would have got nothing for him in the summer so they have taken our bid."

WINNING A PAIR OF TOYOTAS THIS WEEKEND IS EASY.

(THE DIFFICULT BIT WILL BE DECIDING WHICH ONE TO DRIVE FIRST.)



TWO PAIRS OF TOYOTAS TO BE WON AN AVENSIS AND A COROLLA, PLUS 25 PAIRS OF TICKETS TO TOP SPORTING EVENTS AND EVERY ENTRANT GETS A £150 'GOING PLACES' HOLIDAY VOUCHER.

Lawmen judged fit for the fray

Rob Hughes on an intensive training regime for World Cup officials

The players of England and Scotland may well be sweating on which of them is chosen for the World Cup. But Paul Durkin and Hugh Dallas, referees in England and Scotland, have done their perspiring, in the elegant surrounds of Le Manoir de Gressy, 30 kilometres north of Paris, where they were among the 33 arbiters who passed stringent physical and medical checks to confirm their selections.

On the other hand, because these are uniquely pressured human beings, referees may be put on a plane, even humiliated by authority, if they do not obey the new strictures, notably concerning a change for the World Cup that obliges the referee automatically to send off players who commit fouls from behind.

"Let us be clear," David Will, the Scottish lawyer who is head of the Fifa referees' committee, said. "We are talking here not of a tackle, but of an attack from behind. We have all seen Marco van Basten and others put out of the game by what used to be called in the English language the professional foul. We have produced a video for each of the referees whose fitness we have been testing over the last few days and it leaves no room for doubt what we classify as a tackle from behind: it is the act of a player coming through the back of an opponent, where the opponent cannot even see him, and whether or not he gets the ball, that is now a red card."

These referees should now be seen as fit in body and clear in mind. Mario van der Ende, the Dutch referee who handled Aston Villa's UEFA Cup game against Atletico Madrid last week, admitted that his own purge on the



Durkin, left, and Dallas are put through their paces near Paris in preparation for the World Cup this summer.

body has stripped about a stone from him over the winter.
The test for these men in France has been the Cooper Test, running 2,700 metres in 12 minutes. Durkin, 42, ran 2,850 metres in the time and Dallas, 40, who runs his own joinery business in Perth, extended that to 3,050. Both men adequately sprinted in the allotted time, too.
So, fit, ready and, in Durkin's case, absolutely thrilled

because he has just learnt he will also referee the FA Cup Final at Wembley in May. The turning-point of his career with the whistle came at the expense of Dermot Gallagher, who was injured during a Euro 96 match at Newcastle and Durkin, the enthusiast, stepped in as the fourth official.
Durkin and Dallas said yesterday that they believed refereeing in the World Cup was an unpaid duty, except

for an unsubstantiated daily living allowance. Maybe the instructors of Fifa, the world governing body of football, did not make themselves clear, for they announced in Gressy that the referees will each receive £25,000 (about £15,000) and the assistant referees (linesmen) will be paid £20,000 in addition to the daily allowance.
However, they must be correct to the nth degree to be given more than a single

match. Round by round the referees will be whittled down and, whereas at the last World Cup in the United States some were clearly humiliated and sent home because the examiner in the stands was displeased with them, the official Fifa word is "we do not send referees home, we release them."

Referees get strict orders

HE SENT off two players and booked six others, yet David Elleray returned from Germany's international match against Brazil this week prepared to face accusations from Fifa that he had been too lenient. He will not be the last (Matt Dickinson writes).
As the world governing body was instructing its World Cup officials on new, stricter guidelines at a seminar, Elleray was providing a worrying glimpse of Fifa's expectations.
"I would suspect that if that had been a competitive game in the World Cup, under the instructions given to the referees in France this week there would have been a case for more disciplinary action," the Harrow bossmaster said yesterday. "I will get the report next week, but they may say I should have sent off the German defender (Jurgen Kohler) early on for a tackle from behind and booked another later."

And yet - with the notable exception of Kohler's disgraceful lunge and the later dismissal of Dunga - the 2-1 victory by Brazil in Stuttgart on Wednesday night was not a particularly dirty game: there will be worse in the FA Carling Premiership tomorrow.
The difference is that in internationals, referees are under intense scrutiny from Fifa. Referee the game our way, Fifa has told its officials, or face the sack.
"Yon feel the pressure," Elleray said. "I had it at Euro 96. I gave out nine yellow cards in one game and got a lot of stick in the media. The irony was that UEFA [the European governing body] felt I had not been strict enough."

Elleray, however, believes Fifa's approach is the right one. "People talk about the administrators and the referees but it is also down to the players and coaches," he said.

Slough on long march to Wembley

Non-League Football by Walter Gamble

AFTER a season overflowing with cup matches, Slough Town have the reward of a Wembley final in their sights when they take on Southport in the first leg of the FA Umbro Trophy semi-final at Wexham Park tomorrow. The match will be Slough's eighteenth cup-tie of an extraordinarily full campaign and they expect to exceed the 2,662 crowd that watched the H draw with Cardiff City in the first round of the FA Cup in November.

Brian McDermott, the Slough manager, said: "We got there from the first qualifying round and had a replay nearly each time. The games soon mount up. It has been the same, with the Trophy, with the exception of the last round when we won at Stevenage."
Slough have completed a double over Southport in the Vanhul Conference this season. "I have seen them a lot of times," McDermott said. "They are a good team with a good manager. We both know it is a semi-final. Anything can happen. We will be looking for that bit of green."

McDermott is happy, however, that his side has acquired greater consistency. "I think we have progressed this season," he said. "I have been here two years and in that time I have been trying to look for better players. I think we have a good bunch of lads who want to play for us and do well for themselves. The spirit is very good. Team spirit is the be all and end all whatever club you are at, whether it is Newcastle or Slough."

The players he has brought in have included Danny Bailey, from Exeter City; Terry Angus, from Fulham; Paul Hartmann, from Barnet; and Corey Browne, from Stevenage. With old favourites, Cliff Hercules, Gary Abbott and Mark West, and young players in Danny Bolt and Paul Wilkinson, a goalkeeper whom McDermott rates highly as contributing, he is happy with the blend.

Both he and Kevin Hill, his assistant, are justified in feeling that Wembley owes them something. McDermott sat in the stands for three Cup Finals in his eight years at Arsenal and one with Oxford United. Hill was left out of the Yeading squad for the 1990 Vase final.

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns listing sports events, results, and fixtures across various leagues including Basketball, Bowls, Football, Hockey, and Squash.



BOXING

Lewis bids to steal spotlight

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT IN ATLANTIC CITY

IF LENOX Lewis successfully defends his World Boxing Council title against Shannon Briggs here tomorrow and, in the process, looks spectacular in knocking him out, he could be boxing every eight to ten weeks in a new campaign to win world recognition.

That is the plan that Lewis's team is considering should Evander Holyfield continue to avoid a contest with him to establish who is the undisputed world heavyweight champion.

Fearing that Holyfield first wants to meet Mike Tyson for a \$15 million (about \$9.4 million) purse, which would mean a year-long wait, Lewis may take this alternative approach, which has been adopted by Tyson in the past.

Lewis is enjoying his boxing so much now that it would be no hardship for him to make regular appearances.

Emmanuel Steward, Lewis's trainer and strategist, believes that if Lewis knocks out Briggs and his next opponent, Zeljko Mavrovic, in July, Holyfield will keep on making excuses and quietly slip into retirement after meeting Tyson.

Steward said yesterday: "I don't think Evander will fight Lennox if he looks impressive in his next two fights. He'd feel he'd be humiliated. He'll make some excuse and quit."

Don King, Holyfield's promoter, and Panos Eliades, the head of Paniz Lewis's promotion company, still hold out hope of getting Holyfield in the ring in the autumn. But if the fraud case against King, which starts in New York on Tuesday, goes against him, it will be more difficult to make the match.

GOLF: MORE DISAPPOINTMENT FOR FALDO IN PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Westwood runs into trouble

FROM JOHN HOPKINS GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

THERE were four men in the locker-room at Bay Hill golf club last Sunday night. The Bay Hill Invitational event, one of the biggest on the US tour, had finished a couple of hours earlier and now Arnold Palmer, the owner of the club, and Ernie Els, who had just won the tournament, were joined over a few glasses of beer by two Englishmen.

"It was great," Lee Westwood would later tell Andrew Chandler, his manager. "Just Arnie, Ernie, me and Pete [Cowan, Westwood's coach] sitting around telling stories. You would have loved it. At one point Arnie leaned over and said 'this is what I like - men sitting around in the locker-room having beers, swapping stories.'"

Good things seem to happen to Westwood in the United States, where he seems so completely at home, and finishing thirteenth down in Orlando last Sunday was another happy experience. It was a different story, however, in the first round of the Players Championship here yesterday when his lack of experience of the difficult Stadium course cost him dear.

His 74, two over par, was one of his worst scores of recent times and meant he trailed Fred Couples, the early leader, by seven strokes. This course takes some learning and never having played it before this year Westwood was at a considerable disadvantage.

What happened at the 2nd was typical of his day. He hit a massive drive, fully 20 yards further than his partners, so that the green on this 526-yard hole was well within range. He needed only a two-iron to reach it but found that the putting surface was so firm that it rejected his ball, which ran and ran and finished up in a gully at the back of the green.

From there it took a very delicate stroke with his putter, through 15 feet or so of fringe grass and over 25 feet of green, to get his ball to six feet.

Having worked so hard for



Norman's withdrawal yesterday because of a shoulder injury could leave him short of practice for the Masters

his first birdie of the round, Westwood could count himself a little unlucky to waste it by taking a six only two holes later. The 6th is the second shortest par four on the course but it cost Westwood dear. He drove into a waste bunker that runs down the right-hand side of the fairway and his ball came to rest at the foot of the

Roger Chapman and Ken Will reached the semi-finals yesterday when they beat Gary Emerson and Nigel Tokely 3 and 2. Chapman won the event with Will's father, George, in 1979.

grassy bank. Despite a terrific heave, he could not reach the green which was only 100 yards away. Worse, the shot ended in water.

Greg Norman withdrew before the start, complaining of a pain in his left shoulder, and unless he alters his schedule to

compete in New Orleans next week he will arrive in Augusta having played only 17 1/2 rounds all year. It is not an old injury, apparently, and Norman returned to his home in West Palm Beach fully expecting to be able to play in the Masters in two weeks.

Nick Faldo's golf is as bad as it has been for some time. He has played 19 rounds in America this year and only one has been in the sixties and only six have been under par.

A 75 yesterday means he will have his work cut out today not to miss the halfway cut for the second week in a row. "I am just so inconsistent," Faldo sighed. "There are too many bad ones."

Faldo tends to blame his putting, and it is true that he is a shadow of his former self on the greens. He missed one putt of less than three feet, for example. But how does he explain hitting a 90-yard shot with a wedge into a bunker, as he did on the 12th, and hitting his drive right and his second way left on the opening hole?

Sorenstam slips up after promising start

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN RANCHO MIRAGE

ANNIKA SORENSTAM, the world No. 1, was confirming her status in the first round of the Nabisco Dinah Shore, the first major championship of the season, at Mission Hills Country Club, California yesterday - until a double-bogey seven at the 9th disrupted her progress.

It dropped the Swede back to level par, alongside Laura Davies, and three shots behind Pat Hurst, a Californian who had an eagle three at the 2nd and a birdie three at the 3rd. Lisa Hackney, of England, was two under.

On a cool, breezy morning, Sorenstam took an early lead with birdies at the 2nd and 4th holes, but at the 9th an innocuous-looking dog-she hit her third into a greenside bunker and then

tangled with the rough at the back of the green. One of her playing partners, Karrie Webb, the world No. 2, had begun well with a birdie three at the 1st, but the Australian dropped a shot at the short 5th where she three-putted, and was looking a little out of rhythm.

Davies went out in a level-par 36, playing steadily, if unspectacularly. She did reach the green in two at the 2nd hole, a 504-yard par five, for a birdie four, but then had a bogey at the 3rd, a narrow par four.

Hackney, who established herself as a player of high calibre when she finished joint fifth here last year, made her turn in level par and produced birdies at the 10th and 11th holes.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Eagles are flying high under Kear's guidance

Christopher Irvine on the rise in fortunes of Sheffield's new sporting heroes

THERE is more than just a boom in bare essentials in Sheffield. Apart from The Full Monty, the city is basking in the limelight of sporting success, with both Sheffield United and Sheffield Eagles a game away from appearances at Wembley.

United have reached the last four in the FA Cup, while the Eagles, for the first time in their 14-year history, have made a real impact on the city's sporting consciousness. Their victory away to Castleford Tigers earned them a place in the semi-finals of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, where tomorrow they will play Salford Reds.

"It's amazing what one appearance on the BBC can do," John Kear, the Sheffield coach, said. "We walk in most days and no one bats an eyelid. Now everyone's slapping us on the back and after tickers. I'm not condescending the incident, but when Keith Senior punched Barrie-Lou Matherland was subsequently banned from the semi-final, even that notoriety helped get us noticed."

The board and myself identified the Challenge Cup as a priority. We looked at what Bradford achieved in their first year in Super League on the back of getting to Wembley. Success began that snowball. Should we reach the final, I think you'd see crowds here double to 8,000."

Although the odds favour a Wigan Warriors v Salford Reds final on May 2, a nouveau affair between Sheffield and London Broncos would transmit the strongest signal that rugby league is no longer confined to the limits of the M62. While London have been given every possible assistance, the Eagles have clawed their way up from the bottom with a determination instilled by Gary Hetherington, the club's founder, a

philosophy carried on by the estimable Kear. Like Hetherington, now chief executive of Leeds Rhinos, Kear is from Castleford. He was born a stone's throw from the club where he played, coached and enjoyed a disorientating moment a fortnight ago when a seriously under-rated Sheffield upset his former club. "In Cas, you eat, sleep and drink rugby league. Sheffield could be a million miles away, but that win did more for the sport here than imaginable," he said.

In 1984, the Eagles never looked like getting airborne. The club's principal backers withdrew at the eleventh hour and Hetherington had to recruit from amateur and junior leagues. He struck gold with his first signing, Daryl Powell, an unknown Castleford teenager, who went on to play 33 times for Great Britain. It has been steady rather than spectacular progress, including a second division title and two divisional premierships.

Phil Larder, the previous coach, clashed with the club management and lasted seven months. Kear, Larder's assistant, took up the reins last May. Previously, he had run the Rugby Football League academy and was seconded to Paris Saint-Germain to avert relegation in their debut season. His success there led to his other job as the France national coach.

Kear said: "It's nice to see London in the semi, but this is a club of greater substance than the Broncos. Sheffield were given none of their advantages. There was no relaxation in the overseas [players] quota, no being catered for by the club, no shrewd politics to smooth their path. Just sleeves-up, hard graft. In Sheffield, no one needs telling about hard work. It comes naturally."

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that the following persons are the trustees of the estate of the late Mrs. M. J. ...

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE is hereby given that the following persons are the trustees of the estate of the late Mrs. M. J. ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 (NOTICE TO CREDITORS) LIMITED COMPANY (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR CHESTER VOLUNTARY WINDING-UP Pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ...



Rob Hughes meets the Swede tackling the Boat Race



Blonds have more fun: Nilsson, who passed up a career as a professional footballer, has injected a humorous note into Oxford's preparations

Nilsson sets goals for Oxford

In his youth, Henrik Nilsson played for the same Swedish club as Martin Dahlin, the Blackburn Rovers forward, and had opportunities to make it rich as a professional footballer.

student life as any of them. His degree course in social studies last term centred on psychology, is now mainly about political theory, and so intense is the isolation on and around the Tideway that Nilsson was unaware of Boris Yeltsin's Cabinet purge even a day after it was reported.

"To be in it yourself is totally different. When you walk around your college wearing something with 'Beefeater' on it, people look at you and treat you in a different way, it is kind of being a star, which I've never been before. The Olympics was the best thing that ever happened to me, but it was not like this."

The crux of the Boat Race might be that Cambridge, winners for the past five years and heavier by an average of 13lb a man, have all the advantages bar one. No one in their boat has the deep, embittered spur of having lost the race. Six of the Oxford crew, including the cox, have done, and they are coming back for more.



been there," Nilsson said. "You live with people, train and talk together, you sense what a completely empty experience it must be. You are there when they are trained right down and are mentally vulnerable, and you see the way they respond to a bad outing. It's a really, really strong reaction."

ously tried to beat the Americans. We satisfied ourselves with reaching the final." Tomorrow offers no such soft option. The Boat Race, ostensibly Corinthian, is win or fail. Nilsson can see the weight of failure on his colleagues. "Sometimes, we are too serious a crew. We need to lighten up," he said.

HICKORY DICKORY DOCK NO NEED TO CHANGE THIS CLOCK. A Radio Signal Controlled Clock from Oregon Scientific knows exactly when the clocks go back so there's no need for you to remember.

might be that Cambridge, winners for the past five years and heavier by an average of 13lb a man, have all the advantages bar one. No one in their boat has the deep, embittered spur of having lost the race. Six of the Oxford crew, including the cox, have done, and they are coming back for more.

can Bowden, in his first season as the Oxford head coach, confirms that Nilsson often initiates humour and leads impromptu diversions — notably soccer, in which he is the assured winner.

There is one day to endure... and then a lifetime as a victorious or a vanquished Boat Race Blue, the only one in Sweden.

Umpire gives warning to crews

THE appearance of Mike Sweeney, the Boat Race umpire, at Putney yesterday concentrated the minds of the crews (Mike Rosewell writes).

ICE HOCKEY

Cardiff hope to deny Eagles grand slam. THE second Superleague season ends tomorrow at the Nynet Arena, Manchester, when doubts raised about the future of the competition, after the withdrawal of Basingstoke Bison and the decision not to field a team from Birmingham, will be forgotten as Ayr Scottish Eagles and Cardiff Devils meet in the final of the play-off championships.

SAILING

Smith noses in front of Cayard. GOOD boatspeed and better tactics than Paul Cayard on EF Language have allowed Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, and his crew on Silk Cut to regain the lead in the sixth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race, as the fleet powers round the Caribbean towards Florida.

Answers from page 30

- TAPPAL (b) The transmission of letters, etc. by relays of runners. The organisation by which this is carried on. The postal service or conveyance, the mail. One who carries the post. The arrival or dispatch of letters. TWATCHEL (a) A name for the earthworm, from the Old English. Added in the third edition of Isaac Walton's The Compleat Angler, and thence into subsequent books on fishing. UVEA (b) The posterior coloured surface or choroid coat of the eye. The medical Latin word. TREPANG (c) A marine animal, an echinoderm (Holothuria edulis), called also sea-cucumber, sea-slug, sea-pallov, or béche-de-mer, eaten as a luxury by the Chinese. Malay tripping. The early form tripan was apparently from the French.

Cardiff hope to deny Eagles grand slam

THE second Superleague season ends tomorrow at the Nynet Arena, Manchester, when doubts raised about the future of the competition, after the withdrawal of Basingstoke Bison and the decision not to field a team from Birmingham, will be forgotten as Ayr Scottish Eagles and Cardiff Devils meet in the final of the play-off championships.

Smith noses in front of Cayard

GOOD boatspeed and better tactics than Paul Cayard on EF Language have allowed Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, and his crew on Silk Cut to regain the lead in the sixth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race, as the fleet powers round the Caribbean towards Florida.

To the heart of the matter

Heart 999 Heart Special BBC1, 9.30pm

A series of programmes on heart disease opens with the stories of three people who could easily have been among the 150,000 who die from heart attacks in Britain each year. That they survived was due to prompt action by people around them who knew what to do.

Evolution Weekend BBC2, 8.00pm

Three days of programmes mark the 140th anniversary of the publication of an influential book which most people have heard of but few have read: Charles Darwin's The Origin of Species.

Airline ITV, 8.00pm

It is not revealed who designed the new airport at Palma but he or she clearly intended that anybody using it should have the maximum exercise.

Is It Bill Bailey? BBC2, 11.15pm

The ageing hippy with the moon face and quirky style concludes his series with more surreal spins on the everyday world. We have remarked before that Bailey is an unlikely figure among contemporary comedians bucking the trend for sex and snuff and relying on more traditional values such as observational wit.

Performance on 3 Radio 3, 7.30pm

The violinist Viktoria Mullova is the soloist in the Bartok second violin concerto, part of a concert recorded last year by Andrew Davis and the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Salzburg Festival.

The Natural History Programme: Galapagos Radio 4, 11.30am

This is an early contribution to Evolution Weekend, a positive orgy of birds, animals, fish and Darwinian theory running on radio and television. Galapagos is certainly the right starting point for these are the islands where Charles Darwin first evolved (so to speak) his theory of natural selection.

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zed Bell 8.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo White, includes 12.30pm Newsweek 2.00 Chris Moyles 4.00 Dave Pearce, includes 5.45 Newsweek 6.00 Pat Torg 6.30 Essential Selection 8.00 Judge Juice 11.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00am Fabio and Grooverider 4.00 Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

6.00am Alan Lester 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thorne 3.00 Ed Stewart 4.00 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Friday Night in Music 8.00 9.15 The Night Live includes commentary on the WBC super middleweight world title fight between Richie Woodhall and Sugar Boy Matheo 1.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

RADIO 3

6.00am News 6.30am Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 On the Shelf: Shadow Bay 7.30 Music Review 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Westway 8.30 John Peel 8.00 News: News in German (8.45 only) 9.00 World Business Report 9.15 The German World 9.30 BBC English: The Art of Writing 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsweek 10.30 Assignment 11.00 Newsweek 11.30 Focus on Faith 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 First on the Scene 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newsweek 2.00 News: News in German (2.05 only) 3.05 Football Extra 3.15 Live on the Road 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 News 4.15 The New Europe 4.30 tonight: Newsweek 4.55 Tonight 5.00 Newsweek 5.15 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsweek 6.30 Focus on Faith 7.00 News 7.15 Britain Today 7.30 People and Politics 7.00 Newsweek 10.30 tonight: 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05m Outlook 11.30m Multichoice Alternative 12.30 Newsweek From the Weekender 12.45m Tonight 1.00 Newsweek 1.15m Countdown 2.00m Newsweek 2.30m People and Politics 3.00 News 3.05m World Business Report 3.15m Sports Roundup 3.30m Science in Action 4.00m Newsweek 4.30m tonight 4.45m On the Shelf

RADIO 4

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 8.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Neil 2.00pm Lunch on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Alan Green's Sportweek 8.30 Fifties Sport Reports from the Ligon tennis championships in Florida and a look ahead to tomorrow's University Boat Race 9.00 9.15 The Night Live includes commentary on the WBC super middleweight world title fight between Richie Woodhall and Sugar Boy Matheo 1.00am Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Cathie Jones 7.00 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Fred Shaw 7.00 Johnny Byrne's Wheels of Steel 11.00 Cathie Jones 2.00am Howard Pearce

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Barry, Nick Bailey presents music for the morning 6.30m Henry Kelly, Michael Barry prepares programme and concert planning. Plus, High Flyer and Record of the Week 10.00m BBC English: The Art of Writing 9.45m Listen! music magazine 2.00pm Concerto, Vivaldi (Pete Conner in DJ) 3.00m Jamie Crook includes Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance 6.30m Newsweek. Arts issues and guest interviews with John Brunning 7.00m Smooth Classics at Seven 8.00m Evening Concert, Borodin (Owens, Prince Igor); Duxler (The Scarboro's Appraisal); Eggar (Erigma Variations); Sullivan (Pompino) 11.00m Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto (J. S.) Mel Cooper

TALK RADIO

6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Owen 8.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Mo'Z Dee's Spazzone 10.00 Miles Allen 1.00am Mike Dolan

RADIO 5

4.45 Music Machine: Young Musicians '98, Tommy Pearson attends the finals of the Young Musicians League '98 conducting workshop and a few hours of television 5.00m In Tune. Live from St George's, Hanover Square, as the arrival London's Festival of Ideas gets underway, includes live performances from artists involved in the festival and from musicians who specialise in music of the period, such as the Palladian Ensemble, James Bowman and Emma Kirkby 7.30m Performance on 3. A concert given last summer during the BBC's Symphony Orchestra's visit to the Salzburg Festival. Conducted by Andrew Davis with Victoria Mullova, violin, George Benjamin (Ringside by the Flat Horizon); Bartok (Violin Concerto No 2); Barber (Symphony for Strings); Sibelius (Chaconne) 9.40m Postscript: After Virtues — Valerio Veronesi. Dr David Cook examines the impact of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre's ideas (4/4) 10.00m Hear and Now: Sarah Waters presents the last of four concerts of music from the 1970s, given in Birmingham University as part of the Towards the Millennium festival. The pianist Fred Hoff and Philip Mead play Stravinsky's Marche with sound diffusion by John Rusby-Smith 11.30m Composer of the Week: Liszt (1) 12.30pm Presentation: Peter Dinkley considers the achievements of Preservation Hall in New Orleans. With the success of the hall, musicians from Europe gravitated towards New Orleans (1) 1.00m Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 6

6.00am On Air, with Patrice Tremblay, includes Pearson attends the finals of the Young Musicians League '98 conducting workshop and a few hours of television 5.00m In Tune. Live from St George's, Hanover Square, as the arrival London's Festival of Ideas gets underway, includes live performances from artists involved in the festival and from musicians who specialise in music of the period, such as the Palladian Ensemble, James Bowman and Emma Kirkby 7.30m Performance on 3. A concert given last summer during the BBC's Symphony Orchestra's visit to the Salzburg Festival. Conducted by Andrew Davis with Victoria Mullova, violin, George Benjamin (Ringside by the Flat Horizon); Bartok (Violin Concerto No 2); Barber (Symphony for Strings); Sibelius (Chaconne) 9.40m Postscript: After Virtues — Valerio Veronesi. Dr David Cook examines the impact of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre's ideas (4/4) 10.00m Hear and Now: Sarah Waters presents the last of four concerts of music from the 1970s, given in Birmingham University as part of the Towards the Millennium festival. The pianist Fred Hoff and Philip Mead play Stravinsky's Marche with sound diffusion by John Rusby-Smith 11.30m Composer of the Week: Liszt (1) 12.30pm Presentation: Peter Dinkley considers the achievements of Preservation Hall in New Orleans. With the success of the hall, musicians from Europe gravitated towards New Orleans (1) 1.00m Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 7

6.00am On Air, with Patrice Tremblay, includes Pearson attends the finals of the Young Musicians League '98 conducting workshop and a few hours of television 5.00m In Tune. Live from St George's, Hanover Square, as the arrival London's Festival of Ideas gets underway, includes live performances from artists involved in the festival and from musicians who specialise in music of the period, such as the Palladian Ensemble, James Bowman and Emma Kirkby 7.30m Performance on 3. A concert given last summer during the BBC's Symphony Orchestra's visit to the Salzburg Festival. Conducted by Andrew Davis with Victoria Mullova, violin, George Benjamin (Ringside by the Flat Horizon); Bartok (Violin Concerto No 2); Barber (Symphony for Strings); Sibelius (Chaconne) 9.40m Postscript: After Virtues — Valerio Veronesi. Dr David Cook examines the impact of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre's ideas (4/4) 10.00m Hear and Now: Sarah Waters presents the last of four concerts of music from the 1970s, given in Birmingham University as part of the Towards the Millennium festival. The pianist Fred Hoff and Philip Mead play Stravinsky's Marche with sound diffusion by John Rusby-Smith 11.30m Composer of the Week: Liszt (1) 12.30pm Presentation: Peter Dinkley considers the achievements of Preservation Hall in New Orleans. With the success of the hall, musicians from Europe gravitated towards New Orleans (1) 1.00m Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 8

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

RADIO 9

4.45 Music Machine: Young Musicians '98, Tommy Pearson attends the finals of the Young Musicians League '98 conducting workshop and a few hours of television 5.00m In Tune. Live from St George's, Hanover Square, as the arrival London's Festival of Ideas gets underway, includes live performances from artists involved in the festival and from musicians who specialise in music of the period, such as the Palladian Ensemble, James Bowman and Emma Kirkby 7.30m Performance on 3. A concert given last summer during the BBC's Symphony Orchestra's visit to the Salzburg Festival. Conducted by Andrew Davis with Victoria Mullova, violin, George Benjamin (Ringside by the Flat Horizon); Bartok (Violin Concerto No 2); Barber (Symphony for Strings); Sibelius (Chaconne) 9.40m Postscript: After Virtues — Valerio Veronesi. Dr David Cook examines the impact of philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre's ideas (4/4) 10.00m Hear and Now: Sarah Waters presents the last of four concerts of music from the 1970s, given in Birmingham University as part of the Towards the Millennium festival. The pianist Fred Hoff and Philip Mead play Stravinsky's Marche with sound diffusion by John Rusby-Smith 11.30m Composer of the Week: Liszt (1) 12.30pm Presentation: Peter Dinkley considers the achievements of Preservation Hall in New Orleans. With the success of the hall, musicians from Europe gravitated towards New Orleans (1) 1.00m Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 10

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

RADIO 11

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

RADIO 12

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

RADIO 13

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

RADIO 14

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.00 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs, Sue Lawley's castaway is the biographer Andrew Motion (1) 9.45 Feedback, Presented by Chris Durkin 10.00 (FM) News: Back to the Drawing Board, the architect Hughington looks at the impact of the Festival of Britain on the spirit of the nation and talks to the architects behind the Skyline and the Festival Hall (1/4) 10.15 (LW) On the Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On These Days, Liz Lochhead concludes her look at books 10.30 Woman's Hour, with Sheila McClelland 11.30 The Natural History Programme: Galapagos 12.00 News, You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, Presented by Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News, Classic Serial: The Ladies' Paradise, by Emile Zola, dramatised by Stephen Wyatt, with David Kewen and Douglas Hodge (1/2) (1) 3.00 News, The Afternoon Show, with Leslie Taylor 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Tim Marlow considers a new Channel 4 series called Vix: Bodies and a new book Body Horror. Plus, a performance from Caelen Anderson 4.45 Short Story: Crime's Arrest, by Charles Watford, read by William Duttie

FREQUENCY GUIDE: RADIO 1: FM 97.8-99.8, RADIO 2: FM 90.2-90.2, RADIO 3: FM 90.2-90.2, RADIO 4: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 5: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 6: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 7: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 8: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 9: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 10: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 11: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 12: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 13: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 14: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 15: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 16: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 17: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 18: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 19: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 20: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 21: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 22: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 23: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 24: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 25: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 26: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 27: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 28: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 29: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 30: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 31: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 32: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 33: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 34: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 35: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 36: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 37: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 38: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 39: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 40: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 41: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 42: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 43: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 44: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 45: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 46: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 47: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 48: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 49: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 50: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 51: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 52: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 53: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 54: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 55: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 56: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 57: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 58: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 59: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 60: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 61: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 62: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 63: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 64: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 65: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 66: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 67: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 68: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 69: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 70: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 71: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 72: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 73: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 74: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 75: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 76: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 77: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 78: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 79: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 80: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 81: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 82: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 83: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 84: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 85: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 86: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 87: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 88: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 89: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 90: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 91: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 92: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 93: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 94: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 95: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 96: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 97: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 98: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 99: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 100: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 101: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 102: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 103: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 104: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 105: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 106: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 107: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 108: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 109: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 110: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 111: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 112: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 113: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 114: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 115: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 116: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 117: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 118: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 119: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 120: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 121: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 122: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 123: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 124: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 125: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 126: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 127: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 128: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 129: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 130: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 131: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 132: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 133: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 134: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 135: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 136: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 137: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 138: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 139: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 140: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 141: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 142: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 143: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 144: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 145: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 146: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 147: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 148: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 149: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 150: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 151: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 152: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 153: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 154: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 155: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 156: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 157: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 158: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 159: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 160: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 161: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 162: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 163: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 164: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 165: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 166: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 167: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 168: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 169: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 170: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 171: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 172: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 173: FM 92.4-92.4, RADIO 174: FM 9



# So-so heroes, cute creatures and wild mysteries

Never mind the extinction of the dinosaurs: there is one phenomenon of nature which science has yet to explain. Why is it that popular science programme presenters are always professional celebrities? Magnus Pike's gyrating arms, Patrick Moore's gyrating eyebrows: the principle is immutable.

Not that Adam Hart-Davis is going to find a solution in *Local Heroes* (BBC2). Actually I don't think he is a genuine scientist at all. He wears a violent yellow kagoul and an in-his-face orange helmet over his school-sport spectacles; he tows a shopping basket behind his bicycle for no apparent reason and has an urgent, breathy manner. But he is really just another enthusiastic schoolmaster, putting on an act to get the job.

The programmes work like *Michelin Guides*. Hart-Davis takes us to some holiday location and makes us listen to improving

material about great scientific discoveries instead of getting drunk and lying on the beach. Last week Italy was great. Stunning scenery, romantic ruins and momentous conceptual leaps: "Worth a Visit".

Ireland is always risky because you can't rely on the weather, and nowhere looks as dowdy as a small Irish town in the wet. Another problem was that many heroes were English, or English-educated. And to be honest, they weren't so very momentous. Some were so very momentous. Some were so very momentous. Some were so very momentous. Some were so very momentous.

William Petty (from Hampshire) invented the catamaran in Dublin in 1662. It was the fastest ship in the world, but nobody took much notice.

Robert Boyle (educated at Eton) is "the father of modern chemis-

try", but his most spectacular invention apparently is an adaptation of a German vacuum-pump design. This allowed him to do amusing tricks with sheep's bladders in a bell jar. The runaway, or runaway, winner was Joe Sheridan of the Shannon Airport refreshments bar, who invented Irish coffee. Hart-Davis showed us how to make it with the cream at the bottom, which is possibly the world's most pointless party turn. Ireland gets "Interesting".

On BBC1, *Animal Hospital* has every television popularity button at once - emergency paramedics, a casualty ward and cute furry animals. I gained a new respect for the programme when it featured one of our kitten's brothers being rescued from a magpie's nest, but wonder if it shouldn't be followed up with *Animal Counselling*.

The vets are very impressive and

performed marvels with a worm-infested tortoise, a stray iguana, a cat with a broken leg and a pitiful abandoned pony. But I was worried by the presence of one very large cute furry creature, hanging around the surgery interfering with the treatment.

It had a grey furry face, a bouffant mane and uttered strange Antipodean grunts. It actually picked up the wormy tortoise, mid-

operation. Some of its vocalisations made me wonder about the average Agatha Christie. "I felt for a hamster called Lucky," for instance. Perhaps they could take out an injunction. At least he doesn't sing.

Apart from the iguana, which was "beautiful" (though you could have fooled me), there was a woman who ran a foster home for ferrets and took them for walks in the park, a dozen at a time, all on little leashes. When free to do so they burrow under your clothes. Where, I wonder, does one draw the line? Young Jimmy found these poor little crotchroaches wandering dizzily in his granny's kitchen, suffering from insecticide poisoning. I'm happy to say they made a full recovery and are all in good families.

Last night saw the conclusions of the first of the *Silent Witness* two-parters (BBC1) and ITV's three-part drama *Seesaw*. *Silent*

Witness felt a bit mechanical. Having set up as many suspects as the average Agatha Christie, the plot still had to be ingenious enough to surprise us. It all turned out to be a sinister plot by the undergrads, led by a psychotic and embittered PhD wannabe.

Professor Ryan's pathology professor mentor kept telling her to go back to the body for the answer, but then the audience gets mystified in the scene where the students discussed the progress of their crime. We didn't even have the perverse pleasure of Amanda Burton murdering seductively over the body. It is hard to work up much involvement when events and character are so completely subservient to creating a puzzle.

In Deborah Moggach's *Seesaw* this approach was reversed. The characters and the logic of their situations drove the plot, which felt

more like an open-ended psychological exploration. This made the outcome more intriguing than a conventional thriller.

Last week the family began to disintegrate under the pressure of their strained circumstances and the emotional after-effects of Hannah's kidnap. Break the equilibrium and each character is forced to discover new truths about themselves, unpleasant flaws and unexpected strengths.

Like most novel adaptations, it was all rather telescoped and Moggach's keen ear for the complex exchanges of family relationships got squeezed out a bit, but the developments and resolutions were thoughtful and gripping.

Eva (Amanda Ooms) spiralled into a psychological nose dive, but not before she had worked her way through most of the teddies, basques and grip-top stockings in an "adult fun-wear" catalogue. She should steer well clear of ferrets.



Paul Hoggart

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (60176)
  - 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (7) (30350)
  - 9.00 Good Living (1749337)
  - 9.25 Kilroy (7) (2748244)
  - 10.05 Style Challenge (5651027)
  - 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (7) (4976783)
  - 10.55 The Really Useful Show (7) (1385485)
  - 11.35 Real Roads: The England changing road at Twickenham (1798805)
  - 12.00 News (7) and weather (8128905)
  - 12.05pm Call My Bluff (5770060)
  - 12.35 Wipeout (2612244)
  - 1.00 One O'Clock News (7) and weather (40737)
  - 1.30 Regional News (7) (54392244)
  - 1.40 The Weather Show (6660943)
  - 1.45 Neighbours (7) (7252114)
  - 2.10 Ironside: Mark ignores Ironside's well-meant advice (7) (1749553)
  - 3.00 Lion Country: Lord Bath lies it up in St Tropez, while back at Longleaf the vets carry out fertility tests on the Ankoi cattle (3824)
  - 3.30 Playdays (7616176) 3.50 The Littlest Pet Shop (7629640) 4.10 Dennis the Menace (1564282) 4.35 L & K Friday (5441263) 5.00 Newsworld (7) (9789802) 5.10 Blue Peter (7) (5110553)
  - 5.35 Neighbours (7) (7) (923263)
  - 6.00 News (7) and weather (911)
  - 6.30 Regional News (7) (263)
  - 7.00 Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson (7) (5805)
  - 7.30 Top of the Pops with music from Pulp, Robbie Williams, Celine Dion and M People (7) (447)
  - 8.30 A Question of Sport: Ally McCoist and John Patrick lead their teams into another round of the sports quiz (7) (3066)
  - 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (7) and weather (9350)
  - 9.30 **999**: Heart Special: First of three programmes in the BBC campaign to combat heart disease. Michael Buerk presents reconstructions of real-life events in which prompt action saved the lives of heart attack victims (7) (11134) **WALES**: 9.30 American Money (58114) 10.00 999: Heart Special (11355) 10.30 FILM: Shirley Valentine (3501073) 12.00am FILM: Rosemary's Baby (74167138) 2.35 News headlines and weather (3703044) 2.40 BBC News 24
  - 10.00 Shirley Valentine (1988) Paula Collins stars as a Liverpool housewife trapped in a humdrum existence, until a Greek holiday gives her the chance to experience another side of life. Also with Tom Conti. Directed by Lewis Gilbert (7) (18027)
  - 11.50 Rosemary's Baby (1968) Mia Farrow as a pregnant woman who begins to think her husband (John Cassavetes) is a member of a Satanic cult intent on bringing the Devil's son into the world. Directed by Roman Polanski (21834824)
  - 2.00am Weather (4588645)
  - 2.05 BBC News 24

- BBC2**
- 6.10am Death and Dying: One Foot, Many Facets (3249718) 6.30 Modelling in the Motor Industry (122621)
  - 7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (7) and signing (785282)
  - 7.15 Teletubbies (7) (5689373) 7.40 Captain Caveman (7) (6263447) 8.00 The Really Wild Show (7) (15379) 8.30 Mr Bern (6025553) 8.45 The Record (3845543)
  - 9.10 Music Makers (7850350) 9.30 Watch (5473350) 9.45 Come Outside (3478805) 10.00 Teletubbies (26988) 10.30 Look and Read (6784305) 10.50 The Geography Programme (6784969) 11.10 Landmarks (7816114) 11.30 English File (8485) 12.00 Scene (18486)
  - 12.30pm Working Lunch (34992) 1.00 Funnies (24272843) 1.05 Bananaman (24271114) 1.10 The Leisure Hour (7176331) 2.10 Make or Break (2252765) 2.40 News (7) (9789802) 2.45 Me and My Bika (4883824) 3.25 News (7) (1259195) 3.30 Gardening from Scratch (7) (669)
  - 4.00 Change That (7) (4478843) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (4448602) 4.55 Esther: Amateur Theatricals (6548824) 5.30 Today's the Day (640)
  - 6.00 The Simpsons (7) (318250)
  - 6.20 Robot Wars (7) (427621)
  - 6.55 Electric Circus: Backstreet Boys; Paul Nicholls (683517)
  - 7.10 BBC Young Musicians '98: Wind players (658850)
  - 8.00 **Evolution Weekend**: The Fossil Roadshow: Fossil experts at London's Natural History Museum identify collectors' specimens (7) (2195)
  - 8.30 **Evolution Weekend**: The Origin of Species: An illustrated guide David Attenborough narrates this documentary explaining Darwin's theory (7) (1622)
  - 9.00 Blackadder II (7) (7982)
  - 9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks: Shed Seven's Rick Warren, former Tinseltown heart-throb Mark Owen, comedian Richard Morton and M People's Shovel are the guests (7) (54756)
  - 10.00 If I Ruled the World: Statistical panel game (7) (19195)
  - 10.30 Newsnight (7) (446244)
  - 11.15 **Is It Bill Bailey?** Stand-up comedy, sketches and musical spoofs (751756)
  - 11.45 Lee and Herring's This Morning with Richard Not Judy (7) (750027)
  - 12.15am Comedy Nation (25848)
  - 12.45 Later with Joanne Holland Roger McGlavin, Mansour, Massive Attack, Echo and the Bunnymen (7) (727022)
  - 1.45 Space: Above and Beyond (7) (7) (5051577)
  - 2.35 Weather (5503026)

- HTV**
- 6.00am GMTV (4304350)
  - 9.25 This Morning (7) (8584282)
  - 9.30 Vanessa (7) (3268114)
  - 10.10 This Morning (7) (86664331)
  - 12.20pm HTV News and weather (8125088)
  - 12.30 News (7) and weather (38718)
  - 1.00 Wish You Were Here? (7) (35805)
  - 1.30 Home and Away (7) (37089) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (7) (5974350) 2.44 Crimestoppers (9784718)
  - 2.45 WALEs: Get Gardening! (7) (400485)
  - 2.45 Garden Calendar (7) (400485)
  - 3.15 News (1257377)
  - 3.20 Regional News (1247350)
  - 3.25 Roole and Jim (1237973) 3.35 Timbuctoo (4136580) 3.45 Paddington Bear (4829486) 3.50 Tom and Vicky (7678701) 4.00 Zzap! (1818992) 4.15 Humbugs (7) (1578621) 4.40 Crazy Cottage (7) (835195)
  - 5.10 A Country Practice (2407282)
  - 5.40 News (7) and weather (839485)
  - 6.00 Home and Away (7) (7) (232824)
  - 6.25 HTV Tonight (7) (331)
  - 6.30 The West Tonight (7) (331)
  - 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right (7) (7183)
  - 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right (7) (7183)
  - 7.30 Coronation Street: Deirdre takes the stand and the jury considers its verdict (7) (843)

- CENTRAL**
- As HTV West except:
  - 1.00pm A Country Practice (25805)
  - 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1721640)
  - 2.45-3.15 Headliners (400485)
  - 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2407282)
  - 6.25-7.00 Central News (420718)
  - 10.40 Central Weekend Live (6211808)
  - 12.15am Goo's Gift (722577)
  - 1.15 Pop Down the Pub (41886)
  - 1.45 Robocop (6048003)
  - 2.35 SFX (786319)
  - 3.00 World Football (50063409)
  - 3.25 Planet Mith (50042916)
  - 3.50 Vanessa (7240848)
  - 4.30 Central Jobfinder '98 (2836683)
- WESTCOUNTRY**
- As HTV West except:
  - 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (8125088)
  - 2.45-3.15 Murder, She Wrote (400485)
  - 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2407282)
  - 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (46737)
  - 10.30 Westcountry News (583824)
  - 10.45 Dharma and Greg (768669)
  - 11.15-11.45 Friday Night Fever (748282)
  - 11.45 Renegade (707195)
- MERIDIAN**
- As HTV West except:
  - 1.00-1.30 Shortland Street (35805)
  - 2.45-3.15 Put it to the Test (400485)
  - 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2407282)
  - 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (46737)
  - 11.40 SFX (353805)
  - 12.10am A Year in the Fast Lane (9721193)
- ANGOLA**
- As HTV West except:
  - 2.45-3.15 Save Your Bacon (400485)
  - 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2407282)
  - 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (420718)
- SBC**
- Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (23060)
  - 9.00 Yagollon (252701)
  - 11.30 Springhill (3553)
  - 12.00pm Rickd Lake (33814)
  - 12.30 Sesame Street (29060)
  - 1.00 Slot Methrin (47592263)
  - 1.15 Tomos Y Tanc (4759716)
  - 1.30 The Three Stooges (72557669)
  - 1.55 Racing from Doncaster (47154756)
  - 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (244)
  - 4.30 Countdown (756)
  - 5.00 S Pump (8378)
  - 5.30 TV Dinners (468)
  - 6.00 Newyddion (6) (603398)
  - 6.10 Heno (270640)
  - 7.00 Pobl y Cwm (168824)
  - 7.25 Y Cwyl Rygbi (37198)
  - 8.00 Gahwr! Fel (7263)
  - 8.30 Newyddion (6398)
  - 9.00 Tair Chwiler (8973)
  - 10.00 Brookside (328114)
  - 10.35 Father Ted (881263)
  - 11.05 King of the Hill (954388)
  - 11.35 TFI Friday (355843)
  - 12.40am Pond Life (7) (7030022)
  - 12.50 Wolfen (1981) Shocker starring Albert Finney and Gregory Hines. A series of murders leads to the discovery of a wolf-like predator in New York. Directed by Michael Wadleigh (7) (6786664)
  - 2.55 Freaks (1932, b/w) Melodrama about circus people with Wallace Ford and Olga Bacallora. Directed by Tod Browning (7) (640664)
  - 4.05 Crimes at the Dark House (1940, b/w) Melodrama with Tod Slaughter and Hilary Evans. Directed by George King (7) (823770)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 7.00am The Big Breakfast (23060)
  - 9.00 Schools: Of Linnets (1949535) 9.25 Schools at Work (652834) 9.30 Eureka (75178) 9.45 Stop Look Listen (9475718) 10.02 Lost Animals (8903089) 10.10 1796 and After (1880008) 10.30 Maths Book (6697965) 10.40 Living Proof (7) (6773553) 11.00 The Technology Programme (9257398) 11.15 Stage One (7) (9230621)
  - 11.30 Springhill (7) (7) (3553) 12.00 Sesame Street (7) (33814)
  - 12.30pm Light Lunch: With guest Matthew Modine (7) (83011)
  - 1.30 The Three Stooges (72557669)
  - 1.55 Racing from Doncaster: Brough Scott introduces the 2.05, 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races (7) (47154756)
  - 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (7) (244) 4.30 Countdown (7) (5435602) 4.55 Rickd Lake: British fans meet the Backstreet Boys (7) (6533982) 5.30 Pet Rescue (7) (468)
  - 6.00 TFI Friday: Chris Evans is joined by Gaby Roslin and Gary Loner. Music comes from Page and Plant, Divine Comedy, and The Smiles (44378)
  - 7.00 Channel 4 News (7) (723602)
  - 7.55 The Political Slot (200805)
  - 8.00 The Real Holiday Show: A family holiday on Corfu, bickering in Norfolk and golfing. Presented by Gaby Roslin (7) (7263)
  - 8.30 Brookside: Will Ron get the job he dreams of? (7) (6398)
  - 9.00 Ellen: Ellen's Dead Comedy Jam: Ellen thinks a deaf friend of Audrey's is in love with her (7) (2060)

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE**
- Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder N 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder N 63: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz
- 6.00am 5 News Early (8698756)
  - 7.00 WorldWide (7) (5064640) 7.30 Milkshake! (6832737) 7.35 Winzie's House (7) (4302640) 8.00 Havakazoo (7) (1044244) 8.30 Dappledawn Farm (7) (1078843)
  - 9.00 Escape (5474379) 10.00 Hairy Haters: Floor Man's Pig (7) (6770876) 10.30 Sunset Beach (7) (5188892) 11.10 Lecca (2944263)
  - 12.00 5 News (7) (1047331) 12.30pm Family Affairs (7) (7) (815379) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (7) (5063911) 1.30 Sons and Daughters (8077350) 2.00 Beauty and the Beast (6303337) 3.00 100 Per Cent Gold (1855094)
  - 3.30 The Battle of the Villa Florida (1964) with Maureen O'Hara, Rossano Brazzi and Richard Todd. Romantic comedy about two children determined to break up their mother's affair. Directed by Delmer Daves (3821176)
  - 5.30 Was It Good For You? (7) (7908043)
  - 6.00 100 Per Cent (797756)
  - 6.30 Family Affairs (7) (7988008)
  - 7.00 5 News (7) (6740845)
  - 7.30 Wildlife SOS: Animals rescued at Leathhead's rehabilitation centre (7) (797992)
  - 8.00 Fame and Fortune: Brigitte Nielsen former wife of Sylvester Stallone (7) (823963)
  - 8.30 Was It Good For You? Holidays in Portugal (5295850)

- SKY SPORTS 1**
- 7.00am Sports Centre (14950) 7.30 Wrestling (22577) 8.00 Live Sports Centre (14027) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre (22577) 3.30 Sports Centre (22577) 4.00 Sports Centre (22577) 4.30 Sports Centre (22577) 5.00 Sports Centre (22577) 5.30 Sports Centre (22577) 6.00 Sports Centre (22577) 6.30 Sports Centre (22577) 7.00 Sports Centre (22577) 7.30 Sports Centre (22577) 8.00 Sports Centre (22577) 8.30 Sports Centre (22577) 9.00 Sports Centre (22577) 9.30 Sports Centre (22577) 10.00 Sports Centre (22577) 10.30 Sports Centre (22577) 11.00 Sports Centre (22577) 11.30 Sports Centre (22577) 12.00 Sports Centre (22577) 12.30 Sports Centre (22577) 1.00 Sports Centre (22577) 1.30 Sports Centre (22577) 2.00 Sports Centre (22577) 2.30 Sports Centre (22577) 3.00 Sports Centre



# SPORT

**ROWING 54**  
Oxford offer  
Swede a new  
seat of learning

**RUGBY UNION 50**  
Brooke makes his  
presence felt  
at Harlequins

## Henman seeking net gains from Rios



Rios in fine form

TIM HENMAN'S desire for a place among the elite will be seriously tested here today when he plays Marcelo Rios in the semi-finals of the Lipton championships. The contest represents a contrast in styles: the Chilean's relentless baseline assault pitted against Henman's instinctive volleying skills. It has the makings of a classic joust. As Greg Rusedski discovered in California 12 days ago, Rios can be full of venom. Henman will have to lean heavily on aggression. To do that, he must serve at his best against an opponent statistically unmatched in winning points against service this year. Henman will recognise that Rios is demonstrably the toughest oppo-

nent he has faced in this tournament. Like Carlos Moya, Petr Korda and Gustavo Kuerten, Henman's three previous victims, Rios is essentially a baseliner. The difference is that Rios, world ranked No 3, is the outstanding player on the circuit this year. "He is playing the best tennis of anyone at the moment," Henman said. "He has been very consistent, very difficult to beat, but I have not dropped a set in the four matches I have played this week. That is a good sign for me. I must try to dominate the net." That strategy has served Henman well throughout the week. He is among the best of contemporary net-players and the last to survive

here. He has now banished the painful memories of the past eight weeks. "There wasn't a purpose in what I was trying to do on each and every point," he said of his lean run. "I am playing very simple tennis and it is paying off." Rios has suffered no such problems over the same eight-week period. He arrived here fresh from winning at Indian Wells, California. He has reached the semi-finals or better in five out of six tournaments this year and, like the Briton, has yet to drop a set in four matches. He will also enjoy vocal support from the strong South American contin-

gent which makes Miami the most "Latin" city outside the continent itself. Rios, 22, is also reaching for greater heights. He will displace Pete Sampras as the world No 1 by winning this event. Rios ended 1997 ranked No 8, and that despite failing to progress beyond the quarter-finals at a grand-slam tournament. Should he reach the summit, he will be the second player, after Ivan Lendl, to get there without a grand-slam trophy in his cabinet. That latter detail underlines his consistency, to which he has now added the killer touch previously

lacking from his game. Although his tame performance in the Australian Open final was governed by nerves, it encouraged Rios to believe that he could trouble the very best. "I have been playing more intelligently," Rios said. "I am not going for my shots so much, not giving free points and focusing for the whole match." All this has enhanced his popularity in Chile to the level of a national hero, a status totally at variance with his reputation as the most hated man in tennis. So decreed *Sports Illustrated*, the respected American weekly magazine, in its latest issue. Rios prefers to let his tennis do the talking. It has done so rather eloquently of late.

Rios earned his semi-final place early on Thursday morning when Thomas Enqvist, seeded No 22, was felled out of their tussle with a wrist injury. Enqvist evidently hurt himself in defeating Rusedski in the previous round. Rios held a 6-3, 2-0 advantage when the Swede cried enough. Henman may already have done enough to enable him to match his previous best world ranking of No 14. Such is the complexity of the calculations by the rankings computer, however, that he will struggle to advance much further, even if he goes on to win the tournament on Sunday. All will be revealed when the rankings are updated on Monday.

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT  
IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

## Hoddle runs out of options in race against time

By OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

IT SEEMS an age ago when they were counting down the days to the start of the World Cup with the same happy relessness that the clock outside the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris ticks off the seconds to the new millennium. Now, after matches against Chile and Switzerland and the inadequacies those performances have exposed, Glenn Hoddle and his England team would surely turn back time if they could. For now at least, in this period of injury spates and unexpected setbacks, this unsettling spell of experiments that have not quite come off and momentum that has been lost, the World Cup has become something to fear again rather than a test to be embraced. He tried, but there was not much for Hoddle to cling to as he sat in a corner of the departure lounge at Basel airport in the early hours of yesterday morning. He kept saying that he was encouraged by the character England showed in fighting back from 1-0 down against Switzerland

to scrape a draw on Wednesday. But we already knew they had character. We were looking for something more. All we got was a spirited display from Paul Ince, that stopped things crumbling altogether in the first half, a limpet job from Martin Keown on Stéphane Chapuisat and more promising signs from Rio Ferdinand and Michael Owen. Of Owen, though, Hoddle would say only that he "found out how difficult international football can be tonight". That the rest of the team was hardly deserving of mention after a match that was as insipid as a cup of weak tea provided another untimely reminder that, stripped of many of his first-choice players, Hoddle's options are severely limited. In the absence of his stalwarts, many of those who might have walked through the open door of opportunity in Berne found it slamming shut in their face. Conversely, of those who did not play, Paul Gascoigne in particular is finding that his worth to the team increases

with every absence. As Gascoigne hobbles towards June, reeling from one injury to another, trying to adapt to his new surroundings on Teesside, Hoddle is gradually being brought to the sobering conclusion that many of his World Cup hopes are pinned on a fragile man-child now playing his trade in the Nationwide League. The lack of cover for Gascoigne and for other crucial positions becomes more critical when one considers events in Stuttgart on Wednesday, when David Elleray sent two players off in the match between Germany and Brazil and booked six more. Yesterday, the Harrow referee said that if he had applied the letter of the law, it would have been more. In the World Cup, the officiating is likely to be just as strict. If England progress beyond the group phase, it is hard to imagine that it will not be without a number of suspensions. Gascoigne, Paul Ince, David Beckham and David Batty would all be prime candidates for yellow cards. All this, and the undoubted ill-fortune he has suffered with injuries and a reigned FA Carling Premiership race that is heaping the strain on many of his leading players, has led Hoddle to an air of exaspera-



Gascoigne, right, will hope to repay the faith shown by Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, at Wembley on Sunday. Photograph: Jeff Mitchell

## Gascoigne puts worst behind him

By DAVID MADDOCK

TEARS, tantrums and sleepless nights. Paul Gascoigne may have opened another bizarre chapter in his extraordinary story by completing his transfer to Middlesbrough yesterday, but the theme was strangely familiar. There were tears, he said, for the manner in which he had been discarded by Rangers; anger, too, at being forced out, and yet more of the sleepless nights that have dogged his career and been at the root of many of his worst excesses. Gascoigne made an emotional appearance yesterday in front of around one thousand supporters who came to

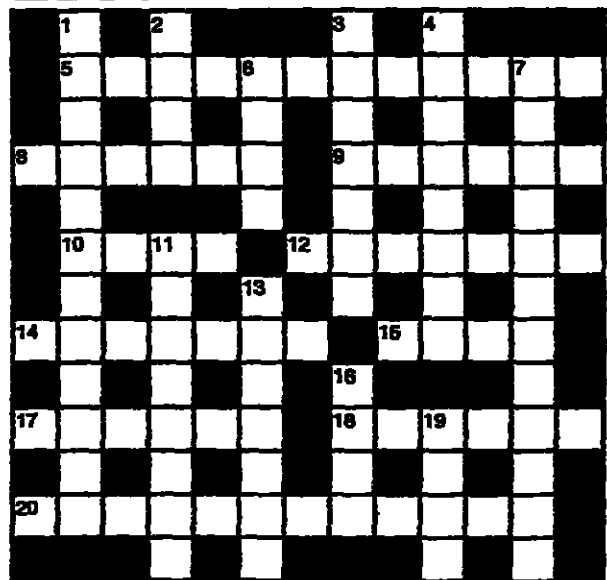
catch a glimpse of their new idol. It wasn't quite the euphoria that greeted Juninho's arrival on Teesside, but then Gascoigne is not quite the player. He can look forward to making his debut for Middlesbrough in the Coca-Cola Cup final against Chelsea at Wembley on Sunday, and yesterday he made clear his distaste for the manner in which Rangers disposed of his services. "In the end, it was awful. I thought my head was going to explode," he said. "There was so much going on, swirling around in my brain. The phone wouldn't stop ringing and I just wasn't sleeping at night. I had to get out of it, to end the situation. I came to

Middlesbrough because my time was up at Rangers. "There was no doubt in my mind that they wanted to get rid of me, so I got on the phone to Bryan Robson and that's when I made my decision. Straight away." It would not be Gascoigne without the confusion and torment that shadows him, but there was also the familiar pledge that his problems are now behind him. He believes that a place in the England squad for the World Cup in France this summer will be secured as soon as he raises his fitness level from its current rating of "70 per cent" to 100 per cent. "I don't see why I shouldn't be there," he said. "On my last two England

games I've got a great chance of making it, and when I get fully fit, people will see the best of Paul Gascoigne." It was a sentiment echoed by Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, who paid £3.45 million for a 30-year-old with a tendency towards injury and a moth-

like fascination for the candle of controversy. "When it all comes together for him, like it has now, then I think I've bought the best midfielder player in the country," Robson said. "He is a world-class talent and, when he gets fully fit, I think he will show it to the world."

### TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1364

- ACROSS
- 5 Main office (12)
  - 8 Swiss breakfast "little mush" (6)
  - 9 Devon grazing land; type of pony (6)
  - 10 The 14 in Othello (4)
  - 12 Soothe, hush (7)
  - 14 Wicked man; criminal (7)
  - 15 Greek B (4)
  - 17 Industrial "action": hit (6)
  - 18 Bowman (6)
  - 20 Disease; far cleverest (anag.) (7,5)
- DOWN
- 1 Complacently superior; jingoistic (12)
  - 2 Howls (at moon); covets (4)
  - 3 Unsleeping (7)
  - 4 Mad rush (8)
  - 6 Little joke (4)
  - 7 Brazil chief port (3,2,7)
  - 11 Old lively dance (8)
  - 13 Old and shrivelled (7)
  - 16 Fifty per cent (4)
  - 19 Underground hollow; look out (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1363  
ACROSS: 1 Coincide 5 Such 8 Croft 9 Makes up 11 Amy 12 Salisbury 13 Embark 15 Border 18 Scrupyard 19 Pip 20 Rollers 21 Adams 22 Warn 23 Enthroned  
DOWN: 1 Cockade 2 Irony 3 Catastrophe 4 Dimple 6 Unsound 7 Happy 10 Kiss of death 14 Burglar 16 Riposte 17 Damsion 18 Screw 19 Plato

**THE TIMES BOOKSHOP**  
NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE  
The Times Two Crosswords (Book 7-42-99). The Times Crosswords (Book 20 Cross-12-99). The Times Jumble Crosswords (Book 3) is available to Times readers for just 14 (RRP14.00) while supplies last from The Times Bookshop.  
The Times Computer Crosswords on disk may also be ordered with free delivery, along with new other books from The Times Bookshop.  
To order simply call 0800 134 459 for credit card orders or for further details. All payments by cheque/POs please make payable to News, Jumble/Crosswords and send to The Times Bookshop, PO Box 26, Farnborough, TR11 0TX. Delivery in UK only and subject to availability.

## Atherton's role uncertain

ADAM HOLLIOAKE has offered the hand of friendship to Michael Atherton but no assurances that the former England captain will win a place in the five one-day internationals against the West Indies, the first of which will be played here on Sunday. The pair met briefly after Atherton flew in from Antigua to join the group of limited-overs specialists who have been practising in Barbados for more than a week. Hollioake, who proved such a capable leader of the side which won the Sharjah tournament before Christmas, had to hand the one-day captaincy back to Atherton and then found himself marginalised for the last four Tests of the Caribbean tour. Yesterday, when he met the media for the first time since his reappointment on Tuesday as one-day captain, he said: "More than anything over the past eight weeks I

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS  
have got to know Michael as a friend. But I would like to think that I have never picked anyone just because I felt sorry for them or because I liked them. I pick a side because I think it is the best for a job." In Sharjah, he overlooked his younger broth-

er, Ben, for all four games and Atherton's poor form in the Test series, in which he averaged 18, must have influenced Hollioake when he sat down last night to pick his team to face the University of West Indies Vice-Chancellor's XI in a warm-up match today. Hollioake said it was his intention to field what he considered his strongest side and that left Atherton facing stiff opposition for a place, as Alec Stewart and Nick Knight are expected to be the first-choice opening pair, unless Matthew Fleming is used as a pinch hitter. It would appear that Atherton's best chance of adding to his 53 caps in limited-overs internationals is for one of the specialist batsmen to be laid low by injury. Both Graeme Hick and Graham Thorpe have been receiving treatment for minor back complaints.

Hollioake: in command

Slater's riposte, page 50

**TOMORROW IN THE TIMES**

**HORSE TALK**  
Simon Barnes meets Lynda Ramsden

**TOP COLUMNISTS**  
Lynne Truss, Frank Lebowitz and Danny Baker

**HENMAN v RIOS**  
Julian Muscat reports from Florida

The world's biggest internet online service

**With AOL**  
you have the knowledge of 20 million people.

AOL constantly updates you on news stories as they break, both local and worldwide, with Reuters and our exclusive News Ticker Service. And with Allsport on AOL you'll be informed on any sporting result almost as it happens. To discover what other ways AOL will keep you abreast of any subject in the world you'd care to name call 0800 279 1234 and ask for your free trial pack, with one month's free membership, 50 free hours online, 10MB of free web space, 5 free email addresses, 33.6kps access speed, free technical support and a 'no obligation to continue' guarantee.